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JPRS Report

Proliferation Issues

PROLIFERATION ISSUES

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24 June 1994

[This report contains foreign media information on issues related to worldwide proliferation and transfer activities in nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons, including delivery systems and the transfer of weapons-relevant technologies.]

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SOUTH AFRICA

Armscor Develops New Armored Tank

*MB0706202094 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network
in English 1800 GMT 7 June 94*

[Text] Armscor [Armaments Corporation of South Africa] has developed an armored vehicle that it believes is as good as any tank being used by NATO or East Bloc forces. The total cost of development, 126 million rands. Marinus Wijnbeek reports that the tank demonstrates the technological capabilities of the South African arms industry. [begin recording]

Wijnbeek: The tank technology demonstrator, as it is called, bears little relation to the existing Olifant tanks used by the armed forces. An important feature of the tank is its suitability for the unique and harsh African conditions. A number of South African firsts are incorporated in its design. This is the first tank that has an adapted commercial engine and cooling systems which ensure crew comfort under the hot African sun. The gun sight is stabilized for all-round functioning and has a thermal night sight. Only the latest American Abrams has a comparable sight. The tank commander has state of the art passive night vision. The gun on the demonstrator has a 105 mm caliber, but this will soon be upgraded to a South African developed 120 mm, and later a 140 mm barrel. The maneuverability of the tank and its cross country and road speeds are 35 and 71 km/h which aren't at all bad for a 58.3 ton armored vehicle. It also has extensive crew safety systems in case it is hit by an enemy. This includes top protection.

Andre Buys Armscor spokesman: This tank technology demonstrator will be used as a test-bed to evaluate new technology and to retain our armor system capability. It will also be used to market our upgrading capability. There is an attractive global market for the modernization of older generation armored vehicles.

Wijnbeek: Impressive though it is, Armscor's latest fighting vehicle will probably not go into production. Although the tank's technology may find its way around the world, this demonstrator is likely to remain just that. [end recording]

Draft Document on Arms Industry Released

*MB3005170794 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1602 GMT 30 May 94*

[Text] Johannesburg May 30 SAPA—A draft document approved by the Transitional Executive Council [TEC] as the basis for a national policy for the defence industry was released in Johannesburg on Monday. The draft policy was produced by the TEC's sub-council on defence and approved by the TEC in April as the basis for the government's defence industry policy.

The document says that because the defence industry is one of the country's major assets "it would not be in the national interest to totally discard it". However, the new

defence industry policy should be seen within broader political and moral considerations as part of the general industrial policy for manufacturing in South Africa. The draft document calls for retention of some of the defence industry's capabilities for military and security application, but also proposes diversification and conversion to meet civilian market needs. A diversification council has been recommended to encourage this.

According to the proposals, no new industry establishment, through state funding, should be undertaken where capabilities already exist in the public or private sector.

Central to the new defence policy is the retention of research and development spending at the current level of R[rand]420 million a year. Unless the expenditure is maintained the industry will lose its technological edge and much of its design and development capabilities, the working document states. A joint management system has been recommended for technology development and to co-ordinate long-term planning of all military research and development. The draft proposals say the state should encourage industry to invest in defence research and development.

Turning to an arms trade policy, the proposal includes the development by the Defence Ministry and the approval by a parliamentary defence sub-committee of guidelines regarding customers of conventional armaments. A list of recipient countries should be approved by a cabinet committee. Armaments should be sold only to recognised governments and not to guerrilla or other movements, the document proposes.

It also says South Africa should refrain from trading in weapons of mass destruction, while the present system of arms trade control should be rationalised. The Defence Ministry should control all arms exports and imports and related technology transfers on behalf of the government. Wherever possible, South Africa should reveal the type of products it sells and who its clients are by contributing to the United Nations conventional arms registers—provided trading partners approve of such disclosures.

According to the proposals, South Africa should no longer strive for complete self-sufficiency in arms, as this is neither affordable nor necessary. In certain areas the policy should be to purchase overseas, in others to procure on a competitive basis, while in strategic areas limited self-sufficiency should be maintained.

Turning to the acquisition of defence systems, equipment and services, the working group recommended the Defence Ministry should be responsible for planning and budgeting for the SA [South African] National Defence Force. Certain regulatory and policy-making functions currently performed by Armscor should also be handled by the ministry.

The draft also proposes greater transparency and accountability to parliament, the public and to the auditor-general.

Speaking at a news briefing in a Johannesburg hotel, Dr Andre Buys, the convenor of the TEC working group that produced the proposals, stressed the document was

merely a draft. It was being submitted to an open, public debate where it should be considered in terms of South Africa's security, socio-economic and industrial policy requirements. This was a move away from past policy-making behind closed doors, he said. "We are inviting criticism and debate in the spirit of democracy," Dr Buys said.

Spokesman on DPRK Nuclear Issue, Others

OW2605120794 Beijing XINHUA Domestic Service in Chinese 1039 GMT 26 May 94

[Text] Beijing, 26 May (XINHUA)—At a news briefing this afternoon, Foreign Affairs Ministry spokesman Wu Jianmin answered reporters' questions on such issues as the election of Herzog as president of Germany and the meeting of the Sino-British Airport Committee.

Unidentified correspondent: What are China's comments on the election of Herzog as president of Germany?

Wu: President Jiang Zemin has sent a message of congratulations to President-Elect Herzog. We sincerely hope that the existing friendly relations and cooperation between China and the Federal Republic of Germany will continue to develop during Mr. Herzog's term of office.

Unidentified correspondent: What has the just-concluded Sino-British Airport Committee meeting achieved? How do you evaluate the meeting? What further measures do the Chinese plan to adopt to reach agreement on financial arrangements as soon as possible?

Wu: During the 20 May Sino-British Airport Committee meeting, the Chinese and British further discussed the financial arrangements for the new Hong Kong airport. They made positive progress and reached a consensus on some issues. The two sides unanimously agreed to accelerate their work so as to reach an overall agreement on the financial arrangement of the Hong Kong new airport as soon as possible.

Unidentified correspondent: What are your comments on the IAEA inspection group's examination of the DPRK nuclear reactor?

Wu: We have taken note of the report saying that the IAEA has taken samples from the DPRK nuclear reactor spent fuel rod and will test them. We welcome any positive development toward the solution of the DPRK nuclear issue within the framework of three bilateral talks involving four parties and hope that the parties directly concerned will make continued efforts to strive for a proper settlement on the DPRK nuclear issue.

Jiang's Comments Cited on Beijing's Influence Over DPRK

OW1705044194 Tokyo KYODO in English 0424 GMT 17 May 94

[Text] Beijing, May 17 KYODO—President Jiang Zemin urged the international community Tuesday [17 May] not to overestimate China's influence on North Korea to settle an international dispute over Pyongyang's suspected nuclear development program, Japanese officials said.

Jiang made the comment in a meeting with Wataru Kubo, secretary general of Japan's No. 2 opposition party, the Social Democratic Party [of Japan], the officials said.

Jiang described as "a matter of the past" a remark by Japan's former Justice Minister Shigeto Nagano that the 1937 Nanjing massacre was a fabrication, the officials said.

"Let's call it over. Let's proceed toward the future," Jiang was quoted as saying.

Qinghai Converts Nuclear Weapons Base for Civilian Use

HK2405152494 Hong Kong MING PAO in Chinese 22 May 94 p B6

[Newsletter From China: "Atomic and Hydrogen Bomb Experiment Base in Qinghai To Be Demilitarized and Used as the Site for a Development Zone"]

[Text] China's first nuclear weapons research and development base is located along side the Qinghai Lake in Haiyan County of Qinghai Province. As China's first atomic bomb and first hydrogen bomb were successfully developed there, people call it the "two-bomb base."

On entering the "two-bomb base," what one sees first is a monument. The inscription, "China's First Nuclear Weapons Research and Development Base," was written by General Zhang Aiping.

The "two-bomb base" was built in 1958, and its formal name was the State-Owned 221 Plant. In those days, a number of nuclear specialists, under the direction of by Marshal Nie Rongzhen, gathered here to research and develop atomic and hydrogen bombs. During the six years between 1958, when the construction of the base started, and 1964, China succeeded in conducting an experiment with its first atomic bomb. Two years later, China succeeded in developing its first hydrogen bomb there. Over the past years, China has produced many atomic and hydrogen bombs at the base.

In those years, the "two-bomb base" was very mysterious. For the sake of keeping secrets, the "two-bomb base" was called the Qinghai Provincial Mining Zone by outsiders. The base was an independent "small society," and all activities of its personnel were carried out within the base. Even the dead had to be cremated inside the base, and their remains were not allowed to be removed. In 1987, the State Council gave its approval to closing down the base, and the personnel was pulled out one after another.

At present, the former site of the "two-bomb base" has become the seat of the Haibei Zang Nationality Autonomous Prefecture Government of Qinghai Province. Because of the enormous scale of the "two-bomb base," the transfer work has not been officially completed. Next

month, the Beihai Autonomous Prefecture will officially sign a transfer contract with the China National Nuclear Industry Corporation.

In those years, the people of the Beihai Autonomous Prefecture, those of Haiyan County in particular, paid a tremendous price for the construction of the "two-bomb base." They vacated more than 1,100 sq. km (equivalent to the total area of Hong Kong, Kowloon, and the New Territories) of their best pasture land for the base. The prefecture still has no large industrial enterprises.

The fixed assets of the base at the time of its closure were over 100 million renminbi, after depreciation on the basis of their price in 1958.

A specialist maintains that a base of the same size could not be built for less than several billion yuan today. The amount of this "legacy" is quite enormous. It includes 560,000 sq. m of buildings inside plant premises, 330,000 sq. m of production buildings, more than 40 km of special railway lines which converge with the Qinghai-Tibet Railway Line, nearly 80 km of standard highways, 1,000 six-digit computer-controlled telephones, and one thermal power plant with an annual generating capacity of 110 million kwh. These facilities can be used with slight alterations. They have suddenly turned Haibei Autonomous Prefecture into an area with the most convenient transportation facilities, the most complete production and daily life facilities, and the best environment for investment among other prefectures and counties of Qinghai.

The Haibei Autonomous Prefecture Government has designated the former site of the "two-bomb base" as a "small zone for nationality economy development" and has formulated a series of preferential policies for investment. At present, the feasibility study on the Haibei Autonomous Metal Sodium Plant, the Electrolyte Aluminum Plant, the Soda Ash Plant, and the Caustic Soda Plant has been

approved and put on record, and the construction of these projects will soon start on the former site of the "two-bomb base." Besides, the Haibei Autonomous Prefecture has also planned to build a series of other projects, including a power plant, an aluminum plant, a magnesium plant, and a carbonization plant. Most of these projects are Sino-foreign joint ventures, and the letters of intent for some of them have already been signed.

Shanghai Becomes Nuclear Power Equipment Production Base

*HK1905102094 Beijing CEI Database in English
19 May 94*

[Text] Shanghai (CEIS)—Shanghai, China's leading industrial and financial center, has become a new production base of nuclear power equipment, according to industry sources. The city's power equipment manufacturing industry has provided equipment for the Qinshan and Daya Bay nuclear power stations, the country's only two nuclear power stations. Recently, the industry signed technical agreements to assist the second-phase construction of Qinshan and part of the contract for exporting a 300,000-kw nuclear power plant to Pakistan. So far, the city has invested nearly 200 million yuan in its nuclear power equipment manufacturing industry, for construction of capital projects covering 93,000 square meters. Since 1988, Shanghai has also earmarked more than 13 million yuan from its treasury to support crucial nuclear power research projects. Sixty-two of the research projects have passed appraisals. Meanwhile, the central government has commissioned Shanghai to tackle 11 key research projects related to the construction of a 600,000-kw nuclear power station, and has allocated more than 12 million yuan to upgrade Shanghai's nuclear power equipment production capacity. During the 1996-2000 period, Shanghai will be able to build one to 1.5 sets of nuclear power equipment a year.

REGIONAL AFFAIRS

ROK Foreign Minister Discusses DPRK Nuclear Issue

SK1805114094 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean
18 May 94 p 3

[Report by correspondent Kang Yong-chin from Bangkok on the news conference by ROK Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu in the VIP room at the Bangkok airport on 17 May]

[Text]

Reporter: Is there any change in the situation of the North Korean nuclear problem?

Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu: Although there were some hardline remarks, including those of U.S. congressional leaders and Defense Secretary Perry, there is no noticeable change in the situation.

The International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] inspection team, which entered North Korea on 17 May, will pay the greatest attention to examining the degree of progress in the replacing of fuel rods in the five-megawatt atomic reactor, which North Korea announced has already begun.

In the event that the inspection team decides that the replacement of fuel rods has progressed, exceeding the dangerous level designated by the IAEA, it will suspend inspections and leave North Korea.

It is the right of IAEA to decide this, and both the ROK and the United States will respect its decision.

It is not an appropriate act for North Korea to have independently conducted the replacement of fuel rods without IAEA presence. However, if North Korea selected fuel rod samples of its own accord and is keeping them, and if there is a way for measuring them afterwards, a third round of U.S.-North Korea talks may be held.

The additional inspection of the radiochemical experimental power station in Yongbyon demanded by the UN Security Council should also be conducted.

It seems difficult that the third round of U.S.-North Korea talks will be held late this month. The talks could be possibly held early next month.

Reporter: There are reports that the United States will push for hardline measures against North Korea, including sanctions through the UN Security Council, prompted by remarks by U.S. congressional leaders. What is your opinion?

Minister Han: I understand that they did not mean immediate sanctions. Their intention is that sanctions should be imposed when the IAEA inspection team's report indicates the crossing of the dangerous level.

Secretary Perry's remarks that North Korea came to possess used nuclear fuel that would enable it to produce four to five nuclear weapons means that this would be true when the replacement of fuel rods, which is ongoing presently, is totally completed.

Reporter: Yun Ho-chin, councilor in the North Korean mission in Vienna, said that the replacement of fuel rods already began a month ago, and that North Korea is now taking out fuel rods.

Minister Han: The beginning of the replacement means that the replacement started from the moment of the suspension of operation. Therefore, whether fuel rods were actually taken out, and how many rods were taken out will be decided only after the IAEA inspection team submits the report.

Reporter: More than half of all questions raised during the regular briefing by the U.S. State Department in the morning of 16 May were related to the North Korean nuclear problem. Therefore, it seems that this issue is now in an extremely important point. What is your opinion?

Minister Han: That is quite natural. The United States repeatedly warned in the past that if it decides that North Korea has advanced the replacement of fuel rods to a considerable extent, it will suspend efforts for solution through dialogue. Thus, the situation in which North Korea-U.S. dialogue was suspended, means the beginning of discussions of sanctions through the UN Security Council.

Reporter: In the event that the UN Security Council begins discussion for sanctions, what is the future prospect of the situation?

Minister Han: The replacement of fuel rods is quite different from what was an issue in the past. The additional inspection should be conducted because North Korea "failed to do what it should do," and the replacement of fuel rods presents a serious problem because North Korea "is doing what it should not do." In the event that North Korea goes beyond the line, which it should not cross, the atmosphere in the United Nations will change. As a result, I believe, China will not show a negative attitude toward sanctions against North Korea.

Reporter: What is the standard to decide the level which North Korea should not go beyond in replacing fuel rods?

Minister Han: The minimum work in the activities that the IAEA should perform is to carry to accomplishment the three principles of selecting, storing, and measuring the samples of fuel rods.

This work is intended to find out past nuclear activities. However, the situation, in which one cannot decide what work North Korea carried out with the nuclear rods it took out, is indeed even more serious.

Reporter: Is there any possibility of holding a working-level contact between North Korea and the United States in order to convey concerns of the international community to North Korea even before IAEA forwards the report on the result of its inspections?

Minister Han: If the inspection team leaves North Korea, for instance, tomorrow, a working-level contact will not likely be held.

It is not likely that a contact will be held before the inspection team forwards the report on its inspection results.

ROK S&T Minister Doubts DPRK Capable of Building Nuclear Arms

SK2405090794 Seoul YONHAP in English 0857 GMT 24 May 94

[Text] Seoul, May 24 (YONHAP)—Science and Technology Minister Kim Si-chung doubts whether North Korea's Science and Technology are so developed as to be used for making nuclear bombs and other weapons. In an interview with a science journal, Kim said, "If we are to extract plutonium, care should be taken to treat (spent nuclear fuel) in such a safe way that allows no difference in mass after having it reprocessed."

"Reprocessing is possible, but we would require enormous time and technology in the process of manufacturing nuclear weapons," he said in the May edition of "SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY."

Saying that he was simply talking of his personal opinion, Kim noted that there is no evidence that North Korea has conducted underground nuclear experiments. "If the North had done it, we would have detected it by seismograph," he said.

"It is presumed North Korea began extracting plutonium from 1985, but I doubt whether they have the technology to manufacture (nuclear) weapons," Kim said.

Papers React to Ex-Opposition Leader's View on DPRK Issue

SK1705055594

[Editorial Report] Local vernacular dailies on 17 May carry editorials commenting on the remarks of former opposition leader Kim Tae-chung, who is now chairman of the Asia-Pacific Peace Foundation, APPF, that North Korea's possession of two or three atomic bombs would not be much of a problem compared with the 20,000 nuclear warheads the United States has.

The conservative CHOSON ILBO carries on page 3 an 800-word editorial entitled "Mr. Kim Tae-chung's View on the North Korean Nuclear Issue." Referring to his

remarks, the editorial says "it is not important how many nuclear bombs North Korea possesses but whether it actually has nuclear weapons." The editorial then says that it is "hard to understand" the APPF's excuse that Kim made the remarks in order to stress the futility of North Korea's possession of a few nuclear weapons because the number of nuclear warheads is not the focus of the nuclear issue.

Noting the ongoing international efforts to deter North Korea's nuclear development, the editorial holds that his remarks are "tantamount to throwing a wet blanket over such efforts," and calls on Kim to "clarify his view on the North Korean nuclear issue before or after he returns home from the United States."

The moderate KYONGHYANG SINMUN carries on page 3 an 800-word editorial entitled "We Should Not Allow North Korea To Have a Nuclear Bomb, Not Even One Nuclear Bomb." Noting that his remarks regarding North Korea's nuclear issue has "caused ripples at home and abroad," the editorial maintains "regardless of the true intent behind his remarks, there is a high possibility that the remarks will confuse the government's North Korean policy."

Stressing the importance of deterring North Korea's nuclear development for the nation's interests, the editorial says, "In view of this, it is hard to read the true intent of Kim's remark that 'the ROK and U.S. Governments have complicated the matter by not yielding a single point to North Korea.'" The editorial concludes that "While we are well aware of where Chairman Kim's true heart and aspiration for the improvement of the North-South relations lie, as one of the most respected personalities in ROK politics, he should refrain from making ambiguous remarks and should work towards a unified national view."

The moderate HANGUK ILBO carries on page 3 an 800-word editorial entitled "Does He Mean That the North's Nuclear Bomb Is Tolerable?" Referring to Kim Tae-chung's "shocking" remarks on the North's nuclear development the editorial says: "It is deplorable that he made such irresponsible remarks at a time when the entire nation is working hard to stop North Korea's nuclear development."

The editorial says Kim's remarks at the Washington's National Press Club proposing the invitation of Kim Il-song to the United States and the appointment of Former President Jimmy Carter as a special envoy to Pyongyang should have been "more discreet."

The editorial concludes that "he should restrain himself from making remarks creating uneasiness and confusion among the people who call for the transparency of North's nuclear issue and want to improve the relations between the North and South."

NUB Minister Says Nuke Issue Should Be Resolved by Two Koreas

SK2605110094 Seoul YONHAP in English
1041 GMT 26 May 94

[Text] Taegu, May 26 (YONHAP)—Deputy Prime Minister [and chairman of the National Unification Board, NUB] Yi Hong-ku stressed on Thursday that the North Korean nuclear question has to be resolved not by third parties but by responsible authorities of the two Koreas.

In a speech at the "Square for Unification Dialogue" held at the Hillside Hotel here, Yi said, "to this end, there needs government efforts to tackle those productive areas that can be agreed on and implemented under the principle of resolution between the direct parties involved."

He said that since the nuclear issue is an all-important question over which the nation's survival is at stake, the government's basic stand is that it cannot allow inter-Korean exchanges or economic cooperation unless there is a substantial progress in nuclear negotiations.

"North Korea cannot possess nuclear arms because if they do, it would shatter power balance between South and North Korea and would possibly lead to giving Japan an excuse to go nuclear itself to the prejudice of peace order in Northeast Asia," Deputy Premier Yi said.

Also saying that the country now needs the kind of education to prepare for unification, Yi said the people should now prepare to share post-unification burdens.

SKNDF Says ROK 'Working Overtime' To Develop Atomic Weapons

SK2705113494 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1057 GMT 27 May 94

[Kim Yong-sam Group's Criminal Act of Throwing People Into 'Nuclear Hell'—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, May 27 (KCNA)—The Central Committee of the South Korean National Democratic Front (Hanminjon) [SKNDF] in a protest message to the traitor Kim Yong-sam May 23 accused the traitor of his treason in doing harm to the fellow countrymen and working overtime to develop nuclear weapons and provoke a nuclear war for destroying the nation in league with outside forces, the Seoul-based radio Voice of National Salvation reported.

Referring to the treacheries committed by Kim Yong-sam against the fellow countrymen, hand in glove with foreign forces, the message said the present regime had tried hard to strengthen an "international cooperation system" designed to stifle the North, where fellow countrymen live, and made the Korean peninsula a theatre of scramble of nuclear powers by taking the unfounded "nuclear issue" of the North even to the United Nations, regarding the "system of cooperation with the U.S. and Japan" as the main axis.

Criticizing the traitor Kim Yong-sam's perfidious acts of reversing the North-South joint declaration on denuclearisation and racing headlong along the road of nuclear armament, the message said the present "civilian" regime is not only extracting a large amount of nuclear materials from the Wolsong heavy water reactor and Taedok multi-purpose research reactor, plutonium-yielding reactors built by the preceding military regimes, but also promoting even the development of a fast breeder reactor, openly crying for "nuclear sovereignty" to justify its development of nuclear weapons.

Kim Yong-sam's criminal acts to stifle the fellow countrymen and throw the people into a "nuclear hell" cannot be tolerated any longer, the message said, and added: In case one of the nine atomic reactors operating in South Korea and nuclear waste accumulated there should explode in actuality, they would emit radioactivity that may cause a hideous pollution more than 10,000 times as great as the total pollution at the time of A-bomb dropping on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

ROK Maintains Nuclear Issue-Economic Cooperation Linkage With North

SK2605123094 Seoul YONHAP in English
1154 GMT 26 May 94

[Text] Seoul, May 26 (YONHAP)—The South Korean Government on Thursday reaffirmed the importance of abiding by the inter-Korean declaration of the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula.

The government also resolved to continue to cooperate closely with the United States and the rest of the world community in the effort to rectify North Korea's violation of the denuclearization declaration.

At a unification and national security policy coordination meeting presided over by Deputy Prime Minister Yi Hong-ku, the government decided to continue to maintain the existing policy of linking inter-Korean economic cooperation to the resolution of the North Korean nuclear question.

A Unification Board official said that the meeting, however, decided to make flexible conditions for such linkage depending on the attitude of North Korea.

He said attendees shared the view that it is not proper to discuss the issue of reconsidering the denuclearization declaration at the present stage.

Regarding North Korea's demand for the replacement of the existing military armistice agreement, the meeting reaffirmed the government policy that such a replacement should be discussed between the two Koreas once confidence-building is fostered in the areas of politics and military between the two sides.

"Attending officials affirmed that the linkage of economic cooperation to the nuclear issue cannot be withdrawn," said Kim Hyong-ki, spokesman for the National Unification Board.

The attendees also expressed concern about a situation in which North Korea may refuse to provide nuclear transparency, challenging South Korea's efforts to abide by the denuclearization declaration, Kim added.

JAPAN

Tokyo Seeks Full Nuclear Inspections in DPRK

OW1905084794 Tokyo KYODO in English
0839 GMT 19 May 94

[Text] Tokyo, May 19 KYODO—Japan is strongly seeking North Korea's acceptance of full international inspections of its nuclear sites suspected of being used to produce nuclear weapons, Chief Cabinet Secretary Hiroshi Kumagai said Thursday [19 May].

"We think North Korea has yet to allay concerns that it is diverting its nuclear materials for military use," the top government spokesman told a news conference.

"We therefore want North Korea to accept in earnest full nuclear inspections demanded by the IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency)," he said.

The IAEA, the Vienna-based international nuclear watchdog, has started monitoring the changing of fuel rods at a 5-megawatt experimental nuclear reactor in Yongbyon, some 90 kilometers north of the North Korean capital.

But it is suspected that Pyongyang has already started the process of removing spent fuel rods from a nuclear reactor despite warnings that international monitors need to be present.

Takemura, Perry, Shalikashvili Discuss DPRK Nuclear Issue

OW2405004794 Tokyo KYODO in English
2356 GMT 23 May 94

[Text] Washington, May 23 KYODO—Japanese political leader Masayoshi Takemura met U.S. Defense Secretary William Perry and Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman Gen. John Shalikashvili at the Pentagon on Monday [23 May].

An aide to Takemura, leader of new party Sakigake [Harbinger], later told reporters that Perry showed strong interest on the current state of Japanese politics and asked Takemura for his views on its impact on Japan's foreign policy.

New party Sakigake is a splinter group of the largest opposition Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and Takemura served as chief cabinet secretary of the previous government of former Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa.

Takemura, whose party quit the ruling coalition last month, assured Perry that Japan will stick by its close relationship with the United States under the present

government of Prime Minister Tsutomu Hata or any future "post-Hata" government.

Takemura also told Perry that "there is no doubt" that Japan will play its part in implementing any sanctions the United Nations may impose on North Korea in connection with its suspected nuclear arms development.

Takemura is currently on a private visit to the U.S.

He is expected to meet other senior U.S. Government officials before leaving for San Francisco to give an address, the aide said.

Nuclear Reactor Fully Loaded With Fuel

OW2005124994 Tokyo KYODO in English
1015 GMT 20 May 94

[Text] Fukui, May 20 KYODO—Japan's prototype fast breeder reactor "Monju" is now fully loaded with fuel and ready for going "critical" throughout the entire core, the governmental Power Reactor and Nuclear Fuel Development Corp. said Friday [20 May].

The last of the 198 fuel assemblies was installed in the core the same day, and the reactor is now set for full chain reactions of nuclear fission.

Monju, located in Tsuruga, Fukui Prefecture, is expected to reach critical state early Sunday.

The controversial fast breeder reactor reached criticality for the first time on April 5, with 168 fuel assemblies installed.

The reactor, which is fueled by a mixture of plutonium oxide and uranium oxide, is believed to have the potential to use fuel 60 times more efficiently than conventional uranium reactors.

Criticality is the point at which the neutrons produced in the fission process are sufficient to sustain a chain reaction without outside stimulus.

Since the reactor reached criticality, the governmental agency has been gradually installing the remaining fuel assemblies while experimenting with the critical conditions by inserting and removing some of the 19 neutron-absorbing control rods.

The 280,000-kilowatt prototype reactor will undergo further tests in this chain reaction stage before turbines are connected in April next year for generating electricity. Full operation is scheduled to start in December 1995.

Fast Breeder Monju Reaches Full Criticality

OW2205052494 Tokyo KYODO in English
0459 GMT 22 May 94

[Text] Fukui, May 22 KYODO—Japan's new plutonium-fueled fast breeder reactor "Monju" on the Sea of Japan coast went "critical" through its entire core at 12:43 a.m. Sunday [22 May], the governmental Power Reactor and Nuclear Fuel Development Corp. said.

Criticality is the point at which the neutrons produced in the fission process are sufficient to sustain a chain reaction without outside stimulus.

The loading of Monju with fuel was completed Friday, when the last of the 198 fuel assemblies was installed in the core.

Since then, the government agency has been gradually removing the neutron-absorbing control rods allowing the reactor to reach full criticality.

The fast breeder reactor in Tsuruga, Fukui Prefecture, reached criticality for the first time April 5, with 168 fuel assemblies installed.

The reactor, which is fueled by a mixture of plutonium oxide and uranium oxide, is believed to have the potential to use fuel 60 times more efficiently than conventional uranium reactors.

The 280,000-kilowatt prototype reactor will undergo further tests in this chain reaction stage before its output will gradually be increased in February next year.

The 600 billion yen plant is scheduled to go on line generating electricity from April 1995 and become a commercially operating supplier by December the same year.

Tokyo Opposes Prefectural Plan To Release Nuclear Details

OW1805055894 Tokyo KYODO in English
0433 GMT 18 May 94

[Text] Sendai, May 18 KYODO—The Miyagi Prefectural Government has decided to disclose information concerning the delivery of nuclear material shipments to and from a power plant in the prefecture, prefectural government sources said Wednesday [18 May].

The central government in Tokyo, however, is opposing the prefecture's plan.

"This decision...is regrettable," said Kenichi Maruyama, an official of the Nuclear Safety Bureau of the Science and Technology Agency.

He said management of information relating to transport of nuclear fuel falls within an international framework and the Miyagi Government's unilateral decision "deviates from this."

The central government in April 1993 advised power plant localities to avoid divulging such information as a precaution against sensitive materials falling into the wrong hands.

The Miyagi Government has decided to reveal information regarding the shipping of spent nuclear fuel from the Onagawa plant run by Tohoku Electric Power Co., the first such public disclosure in Japan.

While the information will not include the time of transport, name of ship or route taken, it will detail such things as fuel quantity, container type, country of destination and whereabouts of a reprocessing plant.

The decision was made in response to the urging of a local antinuclear group.

Maruyama said the agency intends to summon Miyagi Government officials to discuss the situation.

He said the prefecture will be advised to tighten its control of information, taking into consideration the negative overseas reaction that public disclosure of such information would likely generate, as well as how it would adversely affect other prefectures.

NORTH KOREA

Country May Conduct Second Test of Missile 'Soon'

SK2805004994 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean

0000 GMT 28 May 94

[By Yi Il-hwa from Tokyo]

[Text] Quoting a Japanese military source, YOMIURI SHIMBUN reported today that North Korea is making moves to test-fire a missile.

According to this military source, a U.S. information satellite caught these moves by North Korea, and the U.S. Government informed the Japanese Government of this.

The military source said it is highly possible that North Korea will soon carry out the second missile test fire which follows its first test fire of the Nodong No. 1 missile toward the East Sea in May of last year.

Regarding these moves by North Korea at a time when it is the focus of the international community because of its nuclear issue, the Japanese military source analyzed that North Korea is trying to test-fire a missile while weather over the East Sea is calm.

Further Reports on Possible Missile Launching

SK2805021794 Seoul YONHAP in English
0159 GMT 28 May 94

[Text] Tokyo, May 28 (YONHAP)—U.S. reconnaissance satellites detected preparations by North Korea to test-launch a new missile about two weeks ago, the YOMIURI SHIMBUN reported in its Saturday editions.

Quoting military sources here who were informed of the North's movements by the United States Government, YOMIURI said, "there is a possibility North Korea would soon test-fire a second missile following the launch of the Nodong-I missile in the East Sea in May last year."

According to the YOMIURI report, many trucks, launchers and other vehicles have been sent to the detected launch site and vessels were swarming around ports along the east coast, apparently to determine the landing point of the missiles to be launched.

Asked why the North would try to test a new missile when the international community's attention is already focused on its suspected nuclear weapons program, the sources said, "the action seems to be timed with the warm seasonal weather conditions in the East Sea and we do not believe North Korea has any particular political intention of influencing nuclear negotiations."

The TOKYO SHIMBUN carried a similar story, quoting Foreign Ministry officials as saying that "we obtained information that North Korea is preparing to test-launch a missile in the East Sea."

The officials said the information had been supplied by the United States, adding, "the missile to be launched by the North this time appears to be a revised version of the Nodong-I missile," according to the TOKYO SHIMBUN.

"Washington and Pyongyang are likely to hold a third round of high-level talks soon, regardless of the attempt by the North to test-launch a missile," according to the officials, who hinted they had the impression that Washington considers the North's missile launch as a separate issue from the talks.

The North's Nodong-I that was test-launched in May last year has a range of 1,000 km.

Defector Says Nuke Development Headed by Chon Pyong-ho

SK2005035194 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean
0300 GMT 20 May 94

[YONHAP from Tokyo]

[Text] Mr. Kim Tae-ho, a worker at a North Korean uranium processing plant, who defected to the ROK on 7 May, revealed that the Workers Party's second economic committee under the direct control of Kim Il-sung and Kim Chong-il, had been carrying out nuclear development with massive capital investment, and that North Korea

had extracted 12 kg of plutonium in 1988. Mr. Kim gave an interview to YOMIURI SHIMBUN today in Seoul.

He also said: While the Atomic Energy Ministry [wonyaryok kongoppu] appears to be in charge of North Korea's nuclear development, in reality, Secretary Chon Pyong-ho of the Workers Party's second economic committee, is in charge of nuclear development at the instruction of Kim Il-sung and Kim Chong-il.

Mr. Kim Tae-ho also said that many researcher friends had told him that North Korea extracted 12 kg of plutonium for the first time in the summer of 1988 by using the spent fuel at the 5-megawatt nuclear reactor in Yongbyon and that the amount is enough to produce two nuclear bombs.

Mr. Kim also said that there was a coup attempt in the military last year, and that all involved, were arrested.

More on Defector on Country's Nuclear Development

SK2005083024 Seoul YONHAP in English
0721 GMT 20 May 94

[Text] Tokyo, May 20 (YONHAP)—The 2nd economic committee of the Worker's (Nodong) Party, which is directly controlled by North Korean leader Kim Il-sung and his son, Chong-il, is managing Pyongyang's nuclear development through enormous expenditures, a former North Korean worker at a uranium refinery, who defected to the South early this month, told a Japanese vernacular newspaper Friday.

"North Korea succeeded in extracting 12 kilograms of plutonium in 1988," 35-year-old Kim Tae-ho said in Seoul in an interview with the YOMIURI SHIMBUN.

On the surface, North Korea's nuclear program is seemingly under the control of the Atomic Energy Industry Ministry, but in fact it is managed by party Secretary Chon Pyong-ho, chief of the 2nd Economic Committee, Kim said.

The 2nd Economic Committee commands the logistics and atomic energy industries and the nuclear program is managed by its subordinate agency, called the 5th General Machinery Industry Bureau, he said.

All facilities at the Yongbyon nuclear complex are administered by the 5th Machinery Industry General Bureau and Economic Committee Chief Chon are operating them under direct instructions from Kim Il-sung and his son.

Saying he had heard stories from several of his friends working as nuclear researchers, Kim told the YOMIURI that North Korea first succeeded in withdrawing plutonium from spent fuel in the 5-megawatt nuclear reactor at Yongbyon in the summer of 1988.

"Kim Il-song and his son were so happy that they went down to the reactor and gave each of the researchers and engineers a color television receiver," he said.

The extracted plutonium was estimated to weigh 12 kilograms, sufficient to produce two nuclear bombs, Kim pointed out. "In light of North Korea's technology, they (North Koreans) have yet to produce nuclear bombs, but I think they are near completion, he said.

He said a military coup was attempted in a bid to overthrow the Kim Il-song regime early last year. It was led by Vice Marshal Kim Pong-yul and several generals who studied in the former Soviet Union. They were all captured after their coup plan was blocked by Army General Political Bureau Director Yi Pong-won, Kim said.

Before fleeing to South Korea, Kim worked at a uranium refinery in Pyongsan, North Hwanghae Province, which sends ore to a processing factory in Yongbyon. The ore is known to be processed into fuel rods for use at nuclear reactors.

Japan's Nuclear Concealment Denounced

SK1905105194 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1029 GMT 19 May 94

[“DPRK Foreign Ministry Spokesman Urges Japanese Authorities To Declare Total Amount of its Plutonium”—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, May 19 (KCNA)—A spokesman for the DPRK Foreign Ministry in a statement today regarding the discovery of 70 kg of plutonium at the nuclear fuel-making plant in Tokaimura, Japan, says this extra-large case is a breach of the publicly recognized international law which must be taken as a serious case and condemned.

"This vividly shows that Japan's much-touted 'three non-nuclear principles' are a 'screen' for stepping up nuclear armament in full scale while keeping a large amount of plutonium in hiding and that the noisy row Japan has raised over the fictitious 'nuclear issue' of the DPRK, taking the van in the intrigues to stifle it, is a petty trick to conceal its own nuclear armament and divert the public attention elsewhere", the spokesman says.

He urges the Secretariat of the International Atomic Energy Agency to pay due attention to this problem in compliance with the principle of impartiality.

"The United States which has abused the 'nuclear issue' of the DPRK for its sinister political purposes, talking about a 'cooperation system' aimed at 'stifling' the DPRK in league with Japan, a nuclear criminal, can never evade its responsibility for this case," he says, and goes on:

"The Japanese authorities must declare to the international community the exact total amount of plutonium they keep in hiding nationwide and immediately stop their nuclear armament.

"We consider the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula virtually meaningless since Japan's nuclear armament being promoted on the danger line has been verified in actuality.

"We call upon the governments of all countries in the world, international organizations and anti-nuke organizations to exert unbiased efforts to remove the danger of nuclear development from our planet and, in particular, to take a joint action against Japan's nuclear armament which is being accelerated recklessly with the ambition to become a military power, a nuclear power."

SOUTH KOREA

Deputy Premier Expresses Regret Over Kim Tae-chung Remarks

SK1705105494 Seoul YONHAP in English
1038 GMT 17 May 94

[Text] Seoul, May 17 (YONHAP)—Deputy Prime Minister Yi Hong-ku on Tuesday regretted the remarks made recently by Kim Tae-chung, chairman of the Asia-Pacific Peace Foundation, with respect to the North Korean nuclear question.

"I regret that chairman Kim made remarks of a kind not fitting to a government policy and our public sentiments, causing various problems," Yi said.

Kim is said to have stated during his stay in the United States that even if North Korea possesses several nuclear bombs, it doesn't pose any problem.

In a comment, Deputy Premier Yi who is also national unification minister said that if North Korea comes to have any nuclear arms, military and political balance between South and North Korea would be shattered outright, bringing about a serious problem to the national security of South Korea.

"Our government stand is that North Korea should not possess even a single nuclear weapon and that if they have any, it should be destroyed under all circumstances," Yi said.

The deputy prime minister also rejected as "improper" Kim Tae-chung's idea of inviting Kim Il-song to the United States and sending Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter to North Korea as a special envoy.

His proposition cannot be of any help to the government policy of resolving inter-Korean issues through talks between the direct parties involved, namely, South and North Korea, Yi said.

Foreign Minister Addresses Seminar on Asian Nuclear Policy

*SK2605081294 Seoul YONHAP in English
0542 GMT 26 May 94*

[Text] Seoul, May 26 (YONHAP)—South Korean Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu called on North Korea Thursday to fulfill its obligations under the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) and the inter-Korean denuclearization agreement.

An era of reconciliation and cooperation can begin only when North Korea embraces a policy of co-existence and cooperation, Han said in his keynote speech at the opening of an international seminar titled "Nuclear Policies in Northeast Asia."

The seminar opened at the Institute of Foreign Affairs and National Security (IFANS) under the joint sponsorship of the UN Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) in Seoul for a two-day run.

Over 60 experts from home and abroad are participating in the seminar including UNIDIR director Sverre Lodgaard, German Ambassador at large Josef Holik, Tokyo University Professor Takashi Inoguchi and a senior fellow at the China Institute of International Studies, Tan Han.

South Korea fully supports extension of the NPT beyond its scheduled expiration in 1995 and also favors strengthening the nuclear safeguards measures of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Han told the seminar.

The seminar is divided into four sections on the nuclear policies of Northeast Asia, the potential for nuclear proliferation, preventive action against such proliferation, and the nuclear policies of Russia, China, Japan, the United States and South and North Korea.

TAIWAN

Policy on Nuclear Plant Remains Unchanged

*OW2305090194 Taipei CNA in English
0748 GMT 23 May 94*

[By Lilian Wu]

[Text] Taipei, May 23 (CNA)—Economic Affairs Minister P.K. Chiang said the government's policy to build the fourth nuclear plant will not change despite overwhelming opposition to the plant by villagers who live near the proposed site.

Chiang said he was not surprised by the result of a public poll in Kungliao Sunday [22 May], and said he will ask the state-owned Taiwan Power Co. (Taipower) to step up its dialogue and communication with people in Kungliao, a village some 35 km east of Taipei.

In a vote Sunday, some 5,669, or 96.1 percent of the voters, voted against the plan to construct the nuclear plant in Kungliao, while 176 voters supported the plan.

Taipower officials said that it attached great importance to the vote, and will study the reason for villagers' opposition before embarking on another round of communications with them.

They noted however that only 58 percent of the eligible voters turned out to vote.

Taipower also announced that it will subsidize electricity fees for Kungliao villagers as soon as the budget for the fourth nuclear power plant is approved by the legislature.

Taipower President Chang Shih-min will lead Taipower officials to visit Kungliao leaders Tuesday to solicit their support for the plan.

Chang said that the vote is not legally binding and that the plant should be constructed for the welfare of the nation. Plans to construct the plant should not be swayed by the vote alone, he said.

Chang reiterated that the fourth nuclear plant will boast the world's best security and environmental facilities.

Chao Kuo-tung, chief of Kungliao Village, said he was thrilled that most of the voters were against the plan, but said that the 11,000 residents in Kungliao do not have enough strength.

Chao asked Taipei County Magistrate You Ching to hold a public poll in Taipei County to solidify the opposition force. You said he supports the idea of a poll but will have to spend time studying the issues first.

Anti-nuclear activists said they are not content with this "triumph" and have planned other actions to prevent construction of the plant. Legislator Chou Po-lun said that if the ruling Kuomintang tries to force the budget for the nuclear plant through the legislature next month, he will mobilize Kungliao villagers to form a self-defense force to block the construction of the plant.

He said that anti-nuclear groups will begin a series of protests this [words indistinct] the Legislative Yuan Tuesday and National Assembly and the Presidential Office Thursday and stage a large demonstration against the nuclear plant next Sunday.

EGAT Abandons Plan To Build Nuclear Power Plant

*BK0306033694 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
2 Jun 94 p 17*

[Text] Wearyed by mounting anti-nuclear sentiment, the lack of a clear government policy and prohibitive investment costs, state energy planners are dropping their controversial plan to build Thailand's first nuclear power plant.

The move is apparent in the new power plant development project master plan being revised by the Electricity

Generating Authority of Thailand (EGAT), from which the nuclear option has been deleted along with other problematic schemes.

According to Nopphadon Salitdisuk assistant chief of EGAT's generation system development planning division, the authority does not wish to proceed with the plan, which saw the first two of six 1,000-megawatt nuclear power units being commissioned in 2006.

Mr Nopphadon said yesterday that EGAT will not seek to undertake the nuclear project at least in the period 1994-2011, making the possibility of such a project being implemented look remote.

Other "less socially sensitive" and conventional thermal power houses, using for instance imported natural gas and coal, will substitute for the suspended nuclear plant scheme, he said.

He cited the lack of public acceptance of nuclear power plants as the prime factor behind EGAT's decision to withdraw the plan.

But he said that the project may not be abandoned entirely, and EGAT will continue to study various aspects so that "when the time of public acceptance comes" the project can be relaunched.

Prathin Phatthanaphon, deputy governor of the Petroleum Authority of Thailand (PTT), yesterday confirmed EGAT's move.

He said that among other things, the question of safety is uppermost in the minds of the public, and the extremely high investment cost of the nuclear facilities make the project itself financially unviable.

The cost of building a nuclear power plant is some U.S.\$2,000 per kilowatt compared to \$1,200 for one using imported coal and \$650 for a combined cycle plant fuelled by natural gas.

Dr Phiyasawat Amranan, deputy secretary general of the National Energy Policy Office, said the Government does not need to come to a decision today on whether to proceed with the nuclear project because there is still insufficient information with which to make a decision.

"We have 12 years before the planned nuclear power plant is envisaged. We still have a few more years (to decide)," he said.

But Dr Phiyasawat, a key state energy planner, suggested to Business Post that nuclear energy is destined to have a lower priority in the overall] near-term energy plan.

There are energy alternatives which can be made available to meet the country's fast-growing electricity demand more easily than nuclear, he said.

"Why don't we first look into imported coal and LNG (liquefied natural gas)? More natural gas from the Gulf of Thailand will become available for power plant fuels," he said. "Furthermore, there is the potential for increasing power supply to Thailand from hydro-electric projects in Laos, and there is potential for tapping huge hydro-electric resources in Burma," he added.

State energy planners' latest stance on nuclear energy comes less than three months after Prime Minister Chuan Likphai said Thailand may have to take the nuclear option in order to arrest the country's fast-growing electricity demand.

In his first public remarks on whether Thailand should build nuclear power plants, the Premier said the Government can neither overlook nor reject nuclear as a possible source of power generation.

Alternative energy sources for Thailand have their limitations, Mr Chuan said, while acknowledging public concern about the safety risks and the high cost of nuclear power.

Mr Chuan said public sentiment on the issue will be the most important factor deciding whether nuclear plants should be built here.

The World Bank has suggested that Thailand drop its nuclear power plant project, which it sees as more expensive than other options.

It advises Thailand to turn to natural gas, particularly imported LNG, and insists that nuclear power be considered only as a last option.

CZECH REPUBLIC

Military Denies Developing Bacteriological Weapons

*LD0706124794 Prague Radiozurnal Radio Network
in Czech 1000 GMT 7 Jun 94*

[Text] A news conference held in Usti nad Orlici today was dedicated to the alleged production of virological and bacteriological weapons in Techonin, East Bohemian region. Our correspondent Zdene Cela filed this telephone dispatch:

Cela: The military Immunology and Bacteriology Research Institute in Techonin in Usti nad Orlici district has never produced, developed, or stored military bacteriological weapons. This is what Dr. Jiri Beran, dean of the Hradec Kralove-based Military Medical Academy who is in charge of scientific work, told the news conference today. Development of a combat biological agent is above all a matter for top scientists in the sphere of gene handling and genetic engineering, Beran went on to say. The point is that all the agents have been identified [zmapovat] and if one wants to develop a new agent, a new part of a genetic information [carrier] would have to be inserted [in the already identified agents]. No work has ever been done on this subject at the Military Medical Academy.

Dr. Beran explained the attacks waged by CESKY DENIK in March this year by saying that editors have little knowledge of the subject and are unwilling to look deeper into the problem.

The matter is being investigated by the Defense Ministry inspection team and by an interministerial commission.

BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA

Muslims Allegedly Use Poison Gas in Teslic Area

*LD0106110994 Belgrade TANJUG in English
1035 GMT 1 Jun 94*

[“Pool” item]

[Text] Doboj, June 1 (TANJUG)—Bosnian Muslim forces were attacking Serb positions in the Teslic area, northern Bosnia, on Monday and Tuesday night, using all weapons available, including missiles charged with poison gases.

The brunt of the Muslim attack was launched on the southern part of the Teslic battlefield and on the Kozilo area, which came under a cannonade of artillery shells charged with poison gas, Bosnian Serb army sources said on Wednesday.

The Serbs were forced to respond fiercely [as received] and neutralize the Muslim shelling in order to protect their positions and the people of Teslic and the adjacent villages.

Serb forces have prevented two Muslim terrorist actions in the south-eastern Teslic front.

The Serb army sources said that Muslim forces at about 5 a.m. (local time) on Wednesday opened heavy anti-aircraft gunfire on Serb defence positions in Lukici, eight kilometres west of the Serb town of Brcko, in northern Bosnia.

From the northern Bosnian Croat enclave of Orasje, Bosnian Croat forces and Croatia's regular troops on Tuesday night opened strong infantry fire on Serb positions seven kilometres away from the area, leaving one Serb soldier lightly wounded.

Serbs Claim Muslims Continuing To Use Poison Gas

*LD0506133894 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service
in Serbo-Croatian 1109 GMT 5 Jun 94*

[Excerpt] Banja Luka, 5 Jun (TANJUG)—The Muslim forces have continued using poison gases on the Ozren-Vozuca front. They began using them several days ago, the information service of the Serb Republic Army's First Krajina Corps has said in a statement issued in Banja Luka.

Poison gases are fired from mortars and artillery weapons. [passage omitted]

ARGENTINA

CNEA, Canada Negotiating Installation of Nuclear Reactor

PY0306210494 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish
2 Jun 94 p 51

[Text] Although the National Commission for Atomic Energy (CNEA) admitted only yesterday that negotiations had been under way, the Canadian atomic energy company has affirmed that Argentina signed a "memorandum of understanding" for the installation of another nuclear reactor in the country.

Argentina's plans to acquire a new nuclear plant are expressed in a document signed with Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd. (AECL), which will be in charge of conducting a feasibility study for installing a Candu-3 reactor, similar to the one installed at the Embalse nuclear plant in Cordoba. The new nuclear plant would cost about \$600 million.

There are at least two curious things about this report. One is that AECL Chairman Bruce Howe himself admitted before the Canadian Congress that the economic viability of the kind of reactor Argentina is interested in buying is "doubtful."

The second is that in response to CLARIN, the CNEA press office admitted only yesterday that "negotiations have been under way, although nothing has been signed." This contradicts a report on the signing of the agreement, which published in the 17 March issue of NUCLEONICS WEEK, the most prestigious publication on international nuclear industry matters.

Even more curious is the title of this article: "Despite the Unclear Economics of Candu-3, Argentina Will Try." The article states that "despite AECL's doubts about the economic viability of Candu-3, the company is trying to sell it abroad (...)." It also announces the signing of a memorandum of understanding with CNEA to conduct a feasibility study to interconnect a 450 megawatt reactor to the Argentine energy generator system.

According to biologist Raul Montenegro, chairman of the Foundation for the Defense of the Environment (Fundacion para la Defensa del Ambiente) (FUNAM), the idea of installing in Argentina a reactor that "the Canadians themselves believe is uneconomical shows that Argentina continues to be the test tube for developed countries."

Although CNEA has officially denied the signing of this agreement, an important CNEA researcher has confirmed the report to CLARIN. He asserted that "no reactor of this kind is yet operating in the entire world." This means that if this reactor is installed in Argentina, it will be the first ever, that same as happened with Atucha-1, which—according to experts—resulted in so many problems precisely because it was a prototype

whose manufacture was later discontinued, and which had not been previously tested.

The report not only contradicts the international trend to reduce the use of nuclear energy in the production of electricity. It also seems to contradict the theory upheld by some government areas: In the last issue of ECONOMIC NEWS magazine—issued by the Mediterranean Foundation, connected, naturally, to Economy Minister Domingo Cavallo—Economist Juan Novara states that "contrary to what is publicized, nuclear energy is not clean, cheap, or price competitive."

The "fourth nuclear plant," is, however, not as contradictory within the framework of the program to privatize all nuclear plants. This idea is promoted by Cavallo himself, on the basis of the deficit in this area: Because about \$900 million per year are invested in nuclear energy, and only \$300 million obtained from energy sales, this deficit could be decreased by allowing private business to be in charge of selling electricity and the government in charge of its control. A country that offers four nuclear plants, instead of the two that are currently operating, would be more attractive.

Perhaps all these doubts (economic efficiency, privatization, which is still resisted within the CNEA, and naturally, the risks that nuclear energy entails) may have caused an apparently simple commercial transaction to become a state secret.

The memorandum signed between Argentina and Canada does not specify the work to be done, or where the future nuclear plant would be installed. This will be the fourth nuclear plant if Atucha-2 is ever completed. It can be ascertained, however, that this information is being studied, as according to what AECL reported in March, the agreement estimates that "the first results will be provided by mid-year."

Half of the year has already elapsed, and CNEA has not even reported the existence of this memorandum of understanding.

Raul Montenegro, former Cordoba Province energy under secretary, has informed CLARIN, however, that "logical economics on the output of this type of reactor state that it would be viable only if it were situated next to the Embalse Rio Tercero nuclear plant."

This is not an outlandish idea if we consider that the site next to the Embalse Rio Tercero nuclear plant was preselected about eight years ago, when the idea of installing a fourth nuclear plant was still prevalent.

CNEA experts consulted by CLARIN agreed with this theory. They said: "There are very few sites in the country where this reactor would be economically viable. Embalse Rio Tercero is one of them."

BRAZIL**Senate Ratifies Tlatelolco Nuclear Treaty, Amendments**

*PY1705223794 Madrid EFE in Spanish
2009 GMT 16 May 94*

[Excerpt] Brasilia, 16 May (EFE)—After approving a number of recent amendments, the Brazilian Senate today ratified the Tlatelolco Treaty, which proscribes the proliferation of nuclear weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The Brazilian Foreign Ministry stated that with the ratification of the treaty and its amendments Brazil has completed a revision of its international nuclear policy, thus demonstrating its commitment to the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons.

The Tlatelolco Treaty, which was signed in Mexico City on 14 February 1967, was designed to make Latin America the first region in the world to be free of nuclear weapons and to stop the arms race in the region.

The Brazilian Foreign Ministry added that the treaty's ratification "clearly demonstrates the high significance the country attaches to the treaty, which provides that all signatories are equals and have the same rights and obligations and requires safeguards from militarily armed countries." [passage omitted]

Foreign Minister on Tlatelolco Treaty's Ratification

PY1805002094 Brasilia Voz do Brasil Network in Portuguese 2200 GMT 17 May 94

[Report by Claudia Moreira from Brasilia]

[Text] The federal Senate has approved the amendments to the Tlatelolco Treaty, which guarantees the non-use of nuclear weapons. This was reported by Foreign Minister Celso Amorim. [Begin recording]

Amorim: The treaty represents our total integration in a system of guarantees proscribing the use of nuclear weapons. It is a treaty that includes all of Latin America and the Caribbean. All the meaningful countries ratified it, except for Cuba, which did not sign it. However, I believe that now with this ratification by Brazil, as well

as by Argentina and Chile—which were the countries that promoted the amendments—Cuba will now sign it.

With this, Latin America and the Caribbean will be an area totally free of nuclear weapons. It must be pointed out that the treaty not only entails a commitment by Latin America but by the nuclear powers as well not to use or keep nuclear weapons in Latin America. [end recording]

The Tlatelolco Treaty also allows the control of nuclear installations by the International Atomic Energy Agency.

Government, Germany Vow To Finish Angra-2 Nuclear Plant

*PY2305145994 Madrid EFE in Spanish
2300 GMT 19 May 94*

[Text] Brasilia, 19 May (EFE)—Official sources announced here today that the governments of Brazil and Germany will continue the construction of the Angra-2 nuclear plant on the Rio de Janeiro coastline despite the protests of the Greenpeace environmental organization.

Mines and Energy Minister Alexis Stepanenko recommended to Brazilian President Itamar Franco that construction work—which was halted several years ago—be resumed at the Angra-2 site.

Three-fourths of Angra-2's construction has been completed, and the German Government and banks have offered loans to finance the remaining one-fourth of the project.

Mines and Energy Ministry sources noted that it would be cheaper to complete the plant's construction than "to render the investments already made there useless." German Embassy sources noted that to backtrack at this point would cost as much as to finish the plant.

In light of the Brazilian commitment to make peaceful use of nuclear energy, reflected in a number of treaties recently ratified by Congress, the German Embassy has noted that the Bonn government is in favor of continuing the project.

Brazil signed an agreement on nuclear safeguards with Argentina. After approving some new amendments, it also has ratified the Tlatelolco Treaty—which proscribes atomic weapons in Latin America, and has agreed to allow the inspection of its installations by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

EGYPT

Regional Race To Acquire Atomic Bomb Deplored

NC0506174594 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic
30 May 94 p 14

[“Idea” column by Mustafa Amin]

[Text] Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres has said that the Middle Eastern countries have spent a trillion dollars on arms purchases. He said: We took the food out of our children's mouths to pay for arms and half this sum would have changed the Middle East.

It is not the Arab countries that started the arms race, but Israel. If we reviewed the military budgets of the Arab countries before the establishment of Israel, we would find that they were modest. We used to spend far more on health and education than on arms.

Israel purchased arms from Communist Czechoslovakia and Israeli committees roamed the world to buy arms. Egypt then moved and concluded arms contracts with communist countries. Thus was the feverish race triggered.

Israel not only began the arms race but also introduced political assassinations into the region with the assassination of British Minister of State Moyne and assassinations followed.

President Mubarak called for removing atomic bombs from the Middle Eastern countries and all these countries responded positively except Israel, which insisted on continuing to make atomic bombs. If Israel really wants peace, the first thing it must do is to join the Arab countries' consensus and get rid of its atomic bombs.

Israel is mistaken if it imagines that it can have a monopoly on the atomic bomb in the region. Certain regional countries have indeed reached the stage of making atomic bombs and, in a few years, most regional countries will reach this stage. These countries will lavish funds on catching up with Israel. Israel's interests lie in stopping this danger that threatens it and us. The Israeli foreign minister told the truth when he said: The world will not pay us the price of our folly.

INDIA

Article Cites U.S. Pressure on Nuclear Issue

BK2405154694 Madras DINAMALAR in Tamil
10 May 94 p 4

[Article by “Analyzer”]

[Text] Prime Minister Narasimha Rao's visit to the United States has become quite a controversial issue now. A feeling has emerged that the Clinton Administration is trying to blackmail us and force us into a situation that binds our hands.

The global situation today has made the United States a superpower. It is resorting to various types of tricks to make us sign the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT] when in Asia, Pakistan and China possess nuclear weapons.

The United States has been keeping an eye on us after we successfully test-fired the five missiles—Agni, Prithvi, Akash, Trishul, and Nag. At first, it supported Pakistan on the Kashmir issue and later calmed down after the resolution on Kashmir was defeated at the Geneva Human Rights Conference.

The United States could not prevent China from continuing to manufacture nuclear weapons. It has decided to provide F-16 fighter planes to the Benazir Bhutto government.

With the help of these aircraft, Pakistan can easily target our numerous vital installations, including nuclear power plants, and destroy them. A long border exists between India and China. It is a historical fact that even when China-India friendship was flourishing, China invaded us in 1962 and committed aggression against our territory. Nevertheless, while Chinese strength is emerging, the United States wants us to halt even the tests of missiles like “Agni.”

There is a feeling that India floundered during the recent talks between the representatives of India and the United States in London. However, the prime minister has, time and again, said that we will not succumb to any pressure on the NPT.

The events occurring after the visit of U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Talbott, however, conform to the prevailing view that the United States is stepping up its pressure on India.

Earlier, there was a report that Dr. Abdul Kalam, the great scientist hailing from Ramanathapuram, who is known as the “father of missiles” would be transferred from his post. Opposition leader Vajpayee raised the question whether this scientist, who brought laurels to the country by producing “Agni,” was going to retire. The government immediately announced that that Dr. Abdul Kalam's tenure would continue.

The NPT is discriminatory. What is the justification for the countries who have already amassed a lot of lethal nuclear weapons, to ask a country, which has acquired only the technical know-how, to sign the NPT first? Our thinking so far has been that the NPT will not apply to India.

The situation changed a little since signing the GATT accord. An opinion has emerged that as stated by the United States, 5 + 2 + 2 [the five recognized nuclear powers plus Germany and Japan plus India and Pakistan] countries can hold talks on the subject.

Our government has not made any categorical announcements on this in the parliament. Opposition leader Vajpayee says that the prime minister should

assure that he will not discuss anything other than economic issues during his visit to the United States.

Leaders like Former Prime Minister Chandrashekhar and the ruling party's Professor Tiwari are apprehensive that the prime minister's visit can culminate in some dangerous consequences.

Political observers opine that Prime Minister Narasimha Rao's first meeting with President Clinton will create problems when Clinton's political maneuvers are totally against India.

Among international circles, it has clearly been felt that Clinton, who is very particular about providing the F-16 nuclear bomb carrier to Pakistan, is trying to arrest India's growth and crush it.

About 20 years ago a nuclear test was conducted at Pokhran in Rajasthan on 18 May 1974, for peaceful purposes only. That underground test made it clear to the world that we have the capability to manufacture nuclear bombs.

Subsequent prime ministers, however, including Indira Gandhi, did not show interest in conducting nuclear bomb tests.

Thereafter, India made several achievements in nuclear energy. Today, we are also in a position to manufacture nuclear weapons by taking a few steps. Chidambaram, the chief of the Department of Atomic Energy [name and title as published] has said: There is nothing that India cannot accomplish.

At first, the five countries—United States, Soviet Union, China, the United Kingdom, and France—have been recognized as nuclear powers. But, as per the accord on nuclear nonproliferation in 1967, it was decided that barring these five countries, no one should manufacture nuclear weapons. The accord reached in this connection is called the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, known as the NPT. So far, 140 countries have signed it.

Iraq also signed the treaty, but it manufactured nuclear bombs by producing plutonium. South Africa is another country which signed the treaty but covertly manufactured nuclear bombs. North Korea also did the same thing.

So far, several countries, including India, Pakistan, and Israel have not signed the treaty. The funny thing is that Israel has been put on the list of honorary countries possessing nuclear capability.

No one has ever tried to prevent the countries that legitimately manufacture nuclear weapons in the name of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, or to eliminate the threat they pose. On the other hand, the United States is using this treaty as a tool to prevent several peaceful projects, including the launching of satellites. On this basis only, it put restrictions on Russia in

supplying cryogenic engines even to India. Therefore, not only India, but France, Argentina, China, South Africa have not accepted the NPT.

After the dissolution of the Soviet Union, Russia, Kazakhstan, Ukraine, and Belarus possess nuclear weapons.

Hence, including Germany and Japan with the already existing five nuclear countries, there are seven countries manufacturing nuclear weapons. By adding India and Pakistan, it has been calculated that there are five + two + two nuclear countries. The United States wants all of them to end their nuclear tests.

As a first step, the United States wants the halting of tests for all missile programs, including "Agni."

If the Agni, Akash, and Trishul missiles are installed on our borders, they will help us face any attack from Pakistan or China.

Already, due to resource constraints, we are not able to provide the armed forces with the necessary sophisticated weapons. Under these circumstances, if important missiles like "Agni" are crippled, it will benefit certain countries such as Pakistan.

Therefore, the Rao government is constrained to convince the people that the country should go nuclear. Otherwise, as India's enemies could wage a war against it at any time, it has no recourse other than face a very delicate situation. Only after this realization, several reports about the pressure exerted by the United States began appearing. The Indian Government is also constrained to explain to the people and the parliament about its position every now and then.

Pressler Proposal on Capping Nuclear Programs Viewed

*BK2605133794 Bombay NAVBHARAT TIMES in Hindi
25 May 94 p 8*

[Editorial: "Pressler's Proposal"]

[Text] The suggestion of Larry Pressler, U.S. Republican party senator and the author of the Pressler Law, that China's nuclear programs should be capped along with India's and Pakistan's seems to be an honest one. He is right in saying that India cannot give up its nuclear program because of China's continuing nuclear program. This suggestion makes it quite clear that Pressler's attitude is free from any prejudice. He goes into the details of an issue and arrives at an objective analysis. He had argued first before the U.S. administration that economic aid to Pakistan should be stopped because Pakistan was secretly manufacturing the nuclear bomb. He has again advanced the argument that F-16 fighter planes should not be supplied to Pakistan because there is a danger of a nuclear war between India and Pakistan. F-16 fighter planes could be used to drop nuclear bombs. Pressler has further said that Solarz is considered a friend of India and he is very knowledgeable as far as this area is concerned. The way the proposal to appoint him

as the envoy to India has been taken back has been condemned by Pressler. Maybe Pressler has not been a close friend of India as Solarz has been, but his neutrality has certainly shown that he is a well-wisher of India.

The proposal advanced by Pressler fully fits into the U.S.' South Asia policy; hence, the U.S. administration will definitely ponder over it. America wants South Asia to be a zone totally free of nuclear weapons. But is it possible for America to "arm-twist" China? We don't think that America can persuade China to cap its nuclear program. Like India, China can also ask why only South Asia should be converted into a nuclear weapons free zone? America has inter-continental missiles which can drop nuclear bombs at a given target. However, Larry Pressler's proposal goes in favor of India and India can't give up its nuclear program, not only because of Pakistan, but because of China also. Recently, the Chinese Ambassador to India said that India could not be forced to sign the NPT [Nonproliferation Treaty] because India is a sovereign country. China is not as opposed to India's nuclear capacity as the U.S. is. Of course, the Chinese envoy's statement about India was in line with his country's own interests. Each country talks about its own interests. Therefore, India can do likewise, and its arguments will be carried to the U.S. administration by people like Pressler, which will strengthen the Indian stance in America. Of course, nothing may come out of it, but the fact remains that India's position is being properly understood.

'Architect' of Missile Development Program Profiled
*BK0806154094 Delhi THE HINDUSTAN TIMES
in English 5 Jun 94 p 12*

[Text] New Delhi, June 4—The man behind the success of Prithvi is 62-year-old Dr Avul Pakir Jainalabben Abdul Kalam who believes that India should acquire deadly missiles that will put the fear of God into its enemies.

Towards that goal he has been working relentlessly for the past 15 years. According to his friends, Dr Kalam's only dream is to make India a respected, if not feared, world power by the end of this century.

Dr Kalam, an aeronautical engineer and bachelor, has been the architect of India's integrated guided missile development programme and the most important achievement of the programme is that it is the first successful endeavour in the country to harness indigenous talent to design and develop state-of-the-art tactical and strategic missiles.

Of the five families of missiles that he committed himself to develop and deliver four surface-to-surface missile Prithvi, medium range ground-to-air Akash, short-range quick reaction SAM [surface-to-air missile] Trishul and the Anti-tank guided missile Nag are close to production stage.

His most ambitious project, Agni, the intermediate range ballistic missile, has already completed three tests. For

him Agni is truly like a child. The bachelor Tamilian in his poem, "Ancestors' desire" tells about his parents, now dead, wanted him to marry and have the children and how he could not satisfy their desire.

But after Agni was successfully launched, Dr Kalam wrote:

"My parents appeared in my subconscious mind

Smiles on their faces, tear filled eyes, blessing me with grace

For their grandson 'Agni', the symbol of strength

And a continuity of their name."

In another poem "From Tipu's rockets to Agni," Dr Kalam said "I was walking on the historical shores (of Cauvery) in Srirangapatnam where two battles took place in the 18th century. India made the world's first war rocket. These rockets are in the British War Museum. Small tube with gun powder, tiny nozzle and warhead. The use of these rockets defeated the Britishers. History repeats."

Dr Kalam was born in the temple town of Rameshwaram six decades ago. Memories of doting family and a secure childhood explain the serenity on his face. Perhaps the only unpleasant event of his childhood he can remember was when he was separated from his brahmin friend by a new teacher who had his own ideas about social harmony. Dr Kalam who always sat on the front bench with his friend, was ordered to sit in the back row of the classroom.

"Even today, I am living with the image imprinted on my subconscious mind, of Ramaswamy crying in the class when I changed my seat to the rear row", writes Dr Kalam in his annotation to his book of poems "My journey".

Dr Kalam, the Agni man, says the benefits of defence research should also be used for humanitarian work, particularly in the field of medicine. He has founded a society for biomedical technology for this purpose.

After studies, Dr Kalam got his first job as an aeronautical engineer with the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited at Kanpur. He then joined with Satellite Launch Vehicle Programme, and led the team that made Rohini and Menaka, those tiny rockets which aroused scepticism even derision. But the two rockets instilled pride—and passion—in Dr Kalam. No longer did Indian payloads need to ride on the French-built Centaur rockets. The success convinced him that with will and even without money, Indian science and technology could attain dizzy heights.

Commentary Justifies Indian Prithvi Missile Program

BK2805134794 Delhi All India Radio General Overseas Service in English 1010 GMT 28 May 94

[Commentary by D.S. Raizada]

[Text] India's missile program is primarily intended for defense of country's freedom, especially in light of the countries having missiles that can carry both nuclear and nonnuclear warheads surrounding India. As a sovereign country, surely India, like any other country, has the right to defend its freedom and territorial integrity. India was forced to develop missiles when it saw that both Pakistan and China, as well as a number of West Asian countries, are having missiles and missile technology either indigenously developed or clandestinely or openly imported from the Western world.

During his recent visit to the United States, the Indian prime minister, Mr. P.V. Narasimha Rao, has in a very polite but firm way explained that those who advise others must practice a similar advice themselves. India had been in favor of elimination of all weapons of mass destruction and had been advocating at all international forums the need to keep the world free from nuclear and chemical weapons. But India cannot close its eyes to the latest weaponry available with its immediate neighbors that exposes all its cities to the target of the missile.

Of all the countries, America, [which] has been carrying relentless campaign against India's missile program, knows fully well that both Pakistan and China not only have technology, but also have deployed missiles around India. The talk of South Asia to be kept away from all missiles becomes fruitless without capping Chinese missile program and arsenal and without keeping Indian Ocean free of missiles deployed by the United States under one cover or the other. The U.S. ambassador designate to India, Mr. Frank Wisner, told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee last Tuesday [24 May] that United States hoped that India would consider very carefully before deploying short-range Prithvi missile. In a rather one go, he said the United States continues to argue in a reasoned manner with India about the consequences of missile deployment.

Supplying F-16's to Pakistan for carrying nuclear weapons on one side and dealing with China with a different tone while threatening India to scuttle its missile and space technology program does not speak the language of a friend. Whether America likes Prithvi or not, India need not bother. What India has to see is its own security perceptions. No arrangement for preventing the danger of nuclear weapons in South Asia without including China would even work as India's concern about Chinese nuclear weapons is not without justification, which Mr. Wisner has himself admitted.

The double standards of Clinton administration with regard to the deployment of ballistic missiles especially when China is busy in the modernization of its Armed

Forces and Pakistan is deploying Hatf and M-11 missiles is not what is expected from the United States. One wonders why the U.S. did not object when Saudi Arabia deployed its short-range missiles during the Gulf War, nor did it get up in arms when Chinese M-11 missiles were sent to Pakistan. India also cannot afford to forget the threat wielded by America in 1971 when the U.S. had moved its Seventh Fleet carrying nuclear weapons in the Bay of Bengal.

Before leaving for the U.S. early this month, the prime minister assured the nation that neither the usual trials nor deployment of Prithvi missile would be derailed whatever U.S. may desire. The statement of the U.S. ambassador designate to India at the congressional confirmation hearing, [which] is virtually a sort of warning to India of the likely consequences should the Prithvi be deployed, appears not to have impressed policy makers in India. Because whatever may be the U.S. stand, India has its own security perceptions and would naturally be guided by its own stand rather than by that of the U.S. India situated in a missile-proliferated environment and its defense forces, both Army and Air Force, has been looking forward to match the arsenals of the neighbors so that it can defend itself in case of any exigency. Indeed, the Indian [word indistinct] statement just prior to prime minister's U.S. visit left nothing for imagination. For, the billions of dollars flowed from U.S. to India or not, India must have its prestige intact and not allow any country to interfere in its internal affairs. Prithvi must be tested and the work of Agni resumed. P.V. [Narasimha Rao] assured its people that India is sovereign in taking decisions and India will not compromise with its self-esteem and security concerns.

Prithvi Missile 'Successfully' Launched; Next Test Planned

BK0406084894 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0830 GMT 4 Jun 94

[Text] The user trials of surface-to-surface medium range missile Prithvi [Earth] got underway today with the successful launching of the missile. According to Defense Ministry sources, the test launch fully met the requirements. Army authorities are conducting the trials in actual user configuration at the Chandipur interim test range near Balasore in Orissa. According to agencies, the first launch has been targeted to hit the Wheeler Islands located in the Bay of Bengal. The next phase of trial of the 150 to 250 kilometer range missile will be test-fired in actual battlefield conditions. The missile will be targeted against built-up targets to test its accuracy and the impact of conventional weapons. The trials are to last for over two months before the missile is declared fit for induction into the army.

The trials were postponed last month as the prime minister was visiting the United States.

[Hong Kong AFP in English at 0733 GMT on 4 Jun 94 in a similar report adds the following: "PTI said the Prithvi (Earth) missile was fired in clear weather from a mobile

launcher at the Chandipur-on-Sea test range in the eastern coastal state of Orissa.

"The missile streaked diagonally into the sky at 11:40am (0610 GMT), targeted to hit Wheeler's Island in the Bay of Bengal about 75 kilometres (45 miles) from the test range, PTI said."]

Prithvi Missile Called 'Far Superior' to Patriot, Scud

*BK0706045594 Delhi All India Radio Network
in English 0245 GMT 7 Jun 94*

[Commentary by Journalist Venkatnarain]

[Text] India appears all set to induct and deploy the short range surface-to-surface missile, Prithvi, with the Army successfully conducting the second user trial of this indigenously developed world class weapon system yesterday. Prithvi was already tested a dozen times by the Defense Research and Development Organization over a five-year period between 1988 and 1993. Last Saturday, the Army began the crucial preinduction trial phase with its first user trial. Yesterday's launch was to the missile's maximum range of 250 kms and all the mission requirements were achieved. The entire exercise of the user trials is likely to be completed by the end of next month. Prithvi will then be cleared for induction into the defense forces. There may be at least six more user trials in battlefield conditions.

The Army has opted for Prithvi with a shorter ranger of 150 kms. These missiles have the capability of carrying the more lethal one ton warhead payload. However, the Indian Air Force is opting for the 250 km range version to safeguard its forward air bases as well as to bring enemy forward bases within Prithvi's range. This will carry half a ton warhead.

When Prithvi's first experimental launch was successful in 1988, Western security analysts could hardly believe that India could develop the missile system entirely on its own. When Prithvi's induction and deployment seemed imminent in 1992, the United States imposed trade sanctions on India. They are still in force, but have not prevented our scientists from developing this liquid propelled new generation ballistic missile. Prithvi's liquid engine enables its flight to be controlled through real time commands on board computer. [sentence as heard] Its altitude and range thus become greatly flexible and it has six alternate preprogrammed trajectories. All these make it far superior to the Patriot and Scud missiles which performed dismally during the Gulf war. Prithvi's designers and main users see it as an accurate weapons system that can deliver very specific military objectives ranging from a tactical battlefield, heavy artillery support system to long range knocking off of enemy

supplies by striking at bridges, roads, air fields, railroads, marshalling yards, and so on.

Prithvi's induction and deployment into the defense forces will certainly enhance India's overall security by acting as a deterrent. Once its sister missiles like the Trishul, the Akash, the Nag, and the Agni make their way into the defense forces, any enemy will have to think more than twice before launching a conventional military adventure against India.

Work Stops on New Nuclear Reactors After Dome Collapses

*BK2505044894 Hong Kong AFP in English
0424 GMT 25 May 94*

[Text] NEW DELHI, May 25 (AFP)—Indian authorities have halted the construction of two nuclear power projects after a suspected design flaw caused the collapse of a reactor dome at the Kaiga plant in the southern state of Karnataka.

A. Gopalakrishnan, chief of the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board, said in a statement Tuesday that work on the four nuclear reactors being built in Kaiga and Rawatbhata in the northern desert state of Rajasthan had been stopped.

He said the move was related to the May 13 collapse of the concrete reactor dome in Kaiga which left 14 workers injured. Nearly 40 percent of the 130-tonne dome fell down.

A probe has been ordered into the incident, blamed on possible design and construction flaws. All four nuclear reactors on which work has stopped have the same design.

The dome's function is to prevent the escape of radiation in case of an accident.

Gopalakrishnan clarified that the Kaiga project was still under construction and no nuclear fuel or heavy water had been transferred to the plant.

"Hence there is no question of any radioactivity release or radiological impact due to the incident," he said.

But the temporary halt to construction would help authorities review the dome design and construction methods to correct any flaws, Gopalakrishnan said, adding similar dome failures had taken place in the United States.

Findings of the probe ordered into the incident will be made available in two months.

India's seven existing nuclear power plants were closed for inspection in July 1993 after a fire broke out at the Narora station in northern India.

Enquiry Reviews Construction 'Mishap' at Kaiga Nuclear Site

*BK0706134294 Madras BUSINESS LINE in English
29 May 94 p 4*

[Text] Doubts have been raised over the civil construction technology of nuclear reactors following the mishap in the Reactor Building (RB) 1 at the Kaiga nuclear power project recently. Considering that the National Power Corporation (NPC) has not experienced such problems, critics feel that the setback calls for a review.

The Project Director, Mr. Paramahams Tiwari, said an enquiry into the design and execution was underway. The Enquiry Committee includes Mr. C. M. Surendra, NPC Director (Engineering), Dr. Prem Krishna, Professor, (Civil Engineering, Roorkee University, Mr. D. Rajappa, Chairman and Managing Director, Ministry of Water Resources, and Mr. Kushawaha, Head, Reactor Structure Section.

Following the mishap on May 13, when about 130 tonnes of concrete from the under-surface of the inner dome fell from 40 feet, some debris had to be cleared to prevent it from damaging the dust-sensitive equipment housed in RB 1. To document evidence for further enquiry, videographs and photographs were taken. he added.

While the civil construction work was curtailed, other electrical and mechanical jobs were being done in the building.

The total dome would now have to be recast, which could be done in three months. It would not delay the project scheduled for completion in June 1996, Mr. Tiwari explained.

The structure design, submitted by Stup Consultants, Bombay, was approved by the NPC and cleared by AERB. Subsequently, I&T was awarded the civil construction contract which includes the RB 1. The 42-metre inner dome was designed to withstand a pressure of 25 pounds per square inch.

Designing a dome like the RB 1, which has to bear the weight of 600 cubic metres of concrete, involves pre-stressing. However, the degree to which pre-stressing can be done is circumscribed by parameters governing the elasticity of the material in use. It is pointed out that in this case, the localised failure might have occurred because of transcending the elastic limit. The structural engineers have speculated that the binding factor which causes the dome to hold like an integral whole may have also been contributory.

Interestingly, had not the print media chanced upon the event, the localised structural setback might not have become public. The roof of the fire-station on the project site also suffered minor deformations from suspected structural problems.

IRAN**Rafsanjani Opens Miniature Nuclear Reactor in Esfahan**

LD0106195194 Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian 1630 GMT 1 Jun 94

[Text] President Hashemi-Rafsanjani arrived in Esfahan this afternoon to meet the people and to open several economic and scientific projects. Here is a report from our colleagues in the Isfahan Center.

Correspondent: Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, president of our country, arrived in Isfahan this afternoon. [passage omitted]

During his visit, Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani opened a miniature nuclear reactor at the Esfahan Atomic Center. This miniature reactor is equipped with a pneumatic system for sample transfer which facilitates the use of such applications as analysis by neutron excitation and production of radio isotopes. It is worth mentioning that the reactor is operating under the supervision of the International Atomic Energy Agency. [passage omitted]

Kidnapped Nuclear Experts Had 'Very Sensitive' Information

PM0706140094 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 7 Jun 94 pp 1, 4

[Unattributed report: "Three Experts in Iranian Nuclear Program Abducted"]

[Text] Tehran, London, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT—Gunmen have abducted a Chinese engineer and two of his Iranian companions in southeast Iran.

A statement issued by the Interior Ministry in Tehran yesterday pointed out that the Chinese citizen, whose identity is not known yet, was working on the uranium mining project in Rudan. The policy of developing uranium resources is considered part of Iran's nuclear program, that is with technological support from China and North Korea. It is believed that the three abducted people handle very sensitive information concerning Iran's nuclear program. It is not clear whether the abduction operation is political in nature or was carried out by a gang of robbers active in that area.

The abduction of foreign nationals has over the past few months become a big problem for the government in many parts of Iran. In January, a 22-year-old Australian tourist disappeared while on his way to Shiraz, capital of the south. There has been no news of him since. In February and March, three North Korean technicians said to have been working on military projects near the Gulf were abducted. They still have not been released.

Last month, the body of a North Korean man was found near Ahvaz, capital of Khuzestan. It was said that someone lured him and then killed him for unknown reasons.

The government has advised foreign nationals not to leave major cities individually. Excursions organized for European tourists have been canceled or their routes altered to avoid the danger of being attacked by armed gunmen on the road.

The Iranian Interior Ministry's report shows a big increase in all types of crimes, from small-scale riots through to organized and large-scale armed robbery and murder. This coincided with the smuggling of thousands of arms from Pakistan and Afghanistan to all areas in east and south Iran. Sometimes convoys of smuggled goods and drugs travel for hundreds of miles inside Iranian areas, protected by armed groups supported by personnel carries and tanks.

The number of foreign nationals working in Iran is estimated at about 18,000, compared with 1.2 million before the mullahs' revolution in 1979. But there are also 2.2 million Afghan refugees, 1.2 million Iraqi refugees, mostly Kurds and Shiites, and at least 1.2 million illegal immigrants from Pakistan, Turkmenistan, Azerbaijan, and Tajikistan.

Tehran Will Not Take Part in 'Western-Inspired Arms Race'

LD1905104794 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 19 May 94

[Text] The Islamic Republic of Iran will not take part in the Western-inspired arms race in the Persian Gulf. The commander of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Navy [Rear-Admiral Ali Shamkhani], who is currently in Bandar Abbas, announced the above today and added that Western news agencies' propaganda that Iran is competing with other countries in the region in the purchase of arms and military equipment is false. He said: The arms race Westerners have started in our region is more profitable to them than arms races in other parts of the world. In fact, this is plundering the wealth of the Muslim people of the region.

The navy commander also said: The Islamic Republic of Iran has to gain enough strength to protect 2,000 km of its marine border, but it believes it can strengthen its defensive capabilities by relying on its internal strengths and capabilities.

UN's Ekeus Cites 'Headway' on Destruction of Weapons

NC2905140894 Paris AFP in English 1323 GMT 29 May 94

[Text] Amman, May 29 (AFP)—UN disarmament chief Rolf Ekeus said Sunday he had made headway in talks here with Iraqi officials on applying UN resolutions to destroy Iraq's weapons of mass destruction.

"We have made certain progress. But we have to preserve it to maintain the momentum," Ekeus told AFP

after meeting Iraqi Foreign Minister Muhammad Sa'id al-Sahhaf late Saturday, who was on a stopover en route for Cairo.

The head of the UN Special Commission for Iraqi disarmament (UNSCOM) is to present a report to the UN Security Council on Tuesday on setting up a long-term monitoring of Iraqi military capability due to start in July, a reliable source said.

Ekeus was due to resume talks late Sunday with an Iraqi delegation including General 'Amir Rashid head of the Iraqi military industries.

He expressed his "satisfaction" over the initial talks with Iraqi officials, saying they aimed at "clarifying certain issues in order to make progress."

"We are fairly satisfied, although we have not concluded our talks yet," he said noting that any eventual lifting of the Iraqi sanctions would be decided by the Security Council.

A UN embargo was imposed on Iraq when it invaded Kuwait in August 1990, before Iraqi President Saddam Husayn's army was driven out again by a U.S.-led coalition in February 1991.

But the embargo has remained in force backed by UN resolutions requiring Iraq to destroy its weapons of mass destruction and set up a long-term monitoring system.

Ekeus said the aim was to get the embargo lifted, adding that "we are trying to establish whether (Iraq) has respected the UN resolutions."

Iraq has argued on several occasions that it has complied fully with the resolutions.

He is in Amman for a meeting of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, which opened Sunday.

Western Officials Comment on Iraq's Nuclear Capability

LD2005112594

[Editorial Report] London ITV Television Network in English at 1830 GMT on 19 May in its "3-D" program carries a 15-minute report entitled "Saddam's Secret Bomb," showing exclusive video footage of Iraq's bomb factories—revealing the whole truth about Iraq's nuclear program, raising questions about the role of the British Government, and international monitoring agencies.

The program opens with shots of a Scud missile landing on an allied base during the Gulf war and a parade of Iraqi weaponry, followed by comments from David Kay, the UN investigator who uncovered Iraq's secret weapons program after the Gulf war. Kay says: "They were probably 36-months away from having deliverable type of weapons that would have fit either their own Scud missiles or extended range Scuds, or in their high performance aircraft in small numbers. If the war had not

intervened—as we sit here today in mid-1994, they would have at least have had crude nuclear devices, and probably their first deliverable packages would have come on line."

Over extensive shots of Iraqi nuclear sites scattered throughout Iraq, and shots of various items of equipment Kay then says: "The major building where they were going to manufacture nuclear weapons, actually cast the uranium metal, cut it into shapes, put the high explosive around it, is one that could well have produced twenty nuclear weapons a year no problem. It was quite frankly better than most of the American facilities that do the same thing. A lot of the equipment was still there in crates, and it was really something that any lab in the West would be happy to have."

The report then shows exclusive video taken by the Iraqi's prior to the Gulf war, showing extensive shots of its (?Calutron) plant which used huge magnetic coils to extract the nuclear material, followed by comments from U.S Senate investigator Ken Timmerman who says: "We were on the verge of a nuclear catastrophe in Iraq and nobody was really aware of what was going on. One of the problems with nuclear proliferation is that you can never know with certainty exactly how far away a country such as Iraq is from the bomb. Our intelligence community does not know and they cannot know. The Iraqi's had a fantastic international procurement network. They were buying companies all over the world, but the very heart of it was in London, they would set up dummy companies to purchase on the open market high technology, machine-tools, nuclear materials, everything that they needed for their nuclear weapons program."

The report goes on to show footage of Iraqi factories at al-Tuwaitha, al-Atheer, and Badr, a list of British companies who unwittingly supplied equipment to Iraq, unaware it would be diverted to its secret bomb program, and a MI6 document warning of Iraq's nuclear capability. John Gordon, former head of the British Foreign Office Nuclear Department, then says: "I think Britain broke her obligations as a nuclear weapons state under the Non-Proliferation Treaty, because under Article One we are enjoined and we agree in no way directly or indirectly to help other countries acquire nuclear weapons, and in selling machine-tool equipment which we knew might well be used for making centrifuges for the illicit nuclear weapon enrichment program, it seemed to me we were quite clearly in breach of this obligation."

Over footage of UN inspections of the Iraqi bomb sites, Timmerman concludes by saying: "A nuclear India, a nuclear Pakistan, a potentially nuclear Iran, potentially nuclear Iraq, a nuclear North Korea, perhaps South

Korea, perhaps Japan as well armed with nuclear weapons. What is going to keep them from using those weapons? There are no security arrangements that could prevent the next war from being nuclear. There are other countries that are seeking nuclear weapons and they are doing the same things that the Iraqi's did, the same type of procurement, and we in our greed are making the same mistakes."

ISRAEL

Defense, Foreign Ministries Prepare for Talks on CW Pact

*TA2405101494 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
24 May 94 p A1*

[Report by political correspondent Aluf Ben]

[Excerpt] The United States is urging Israel to ratify the international convention on the elimination of chemical weapons within a few months. Israel will respond to this U.S. request, which was recently received here, by the end of the month. The Defense and Foreign Ministries are preparing to hold consultations on the reply.

On 22 May, a discussion on the Chemical Weapons Convention [CWC] was held at Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres' office. Israel signed the convention in January 1993. In its reply to the United States, it will presumably announce that since the ratification date is not until next year, Israel will not address the issue at the present time. To prevent the CWC from harming its security and to ensure a Middle East free of chemical weapons, however, Israel will demand that Arab countries also sign the convention. [passage omitted]

PAKISTAN

Bhutto Rules Out Giving Up 'Peaceful' Nuclear Program

BK1705024794 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in English 1600 GMT 16 May 94

[Text] The prime minister, Ms. Benazir Bhutto, has declared that Pakistan will not give up its peaceful nuclear program under any circumstances. She was talking to a group of newsmen in Islamabad this evening. She made it clear that they were pursuing a well-thoughtout policy in this connection and Pakistan could ill afford to dispense with its knowledge in this vital field. She pointed that Pakistan has been subjected to three wars in the past and it was dismembered also. She recalled that Pakistan had never violated the Nonproliferation Treaty and it was India which violated it by exploding a nuclear device.

Bhutto Comments on Nuclear Inspections, Relations With U.S.

BK2705120194 Karachi DAWN in English 27 May 94 p 1

[Text] Islamabad, May 26—Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto said on Thursday that Islamabad had given counter proposals in response to U.S. suggestion that Pakistan should allow non-intrusive inspection of its nuclear installations.

"The question of non-intrusive inspection is an American proposal and we have given counter-proposals based on a regional solution," Ms Bhutto said at a news conference on her return from Nepal.

She was asked to comment on a recent statement of Foreign Minister Sardar Assef Ahmed Ali in which he had said that Pakistan was ready to allow non-intrusive inspection of its nuclear installations.

Denying that the foreign minister had made any such offer, she said: "Pakistan will not accept any unilateral solution or proposal."

Questioned whether President Farooq Ahmad Khan Leghari would be discussing the nuclear issue with American officials during his current visit to the United States, the Prime Minister said though the President's visit was a private one, "we are using this occasion to have informal talks with U.S. officials and to explain Pakistan's position on the nuclear issue."

Ms Bhutto said she would also be visiting the United States by the end of this year. "I hope it will be a substantive visit."

The Prime Minister said the Pressler Amendment, which debars Pakistan from getting U.S. military and economic aid, was a discriminatory law, "and we want it should go." [sentence as received]

Ms Bhutto said Pakistan shared US concern over nuclear proliferation, "but we feel the Pressler Amendment is a veto in the hand of India."

She said Pakistan and the United States were cooperating in anti-narcotics campaign and defence of human rights, and added that the two could move in the nuclear non-proliferation field provided a regional approach on this issue was agreed upon.

Pakistan, she said, was anxious to improve its relations with the United States, but hastened to add that it did not want to do so just for having F-16 fighter aircraft.

"We don't want one-dimensional relationship. It should be a multi-dimensional one," she asserted.

Ms Bhutto said Pakistan had supported America during Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. "We have defended freedom in Afghanistan and we are cooperating with the United Nations in its peacekeeping preparations in Somalia and other parts of the world," she said, while calling for closer relationship between the two countries.

She said her government was building Pakistan as a modern Islamic state where rule of law would be supreme. She said a society would be built where women would have an equal role to play. A women's police station had already been set up and women's courts would also be established, she said.

Answering a question, Ms Bhutto said she wanted the opposition to cooperate with the government on three main issues—Pakistan-U.S. relations, Pakistan-India ties and the nuclear issue. "On these three subjects we (the government and the opposition) should have a unified stand," she said.

Foreign Minister Discusses Position on Nuclear Inspections

BK1905040194 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 0200 GMT 19 May 94

[Text] Foreign Minister Sardar Asif Ahmad Ali said that Pakistan is ready to consider any proposal, which is aimed at verifying without interference, that its nuclear program is not weapons-oriented. Talking to newsmen at the Foreign Office in Islamabad yesterday, he said that Pakistan has repeatedly made it clear that its nuclear program is for peaceful purposes and the United States has accepted the Pakistani position. He said that Pakistan will not relinquish its principled stand on the nuclear issue, but is ready to consider any proposal aimed at nonintrusive verification.

The foreign minister said that although Pakistan does have the capability to manufacture a nuclear weapon, a political decision has been taken that it will not be manufactured. He said the decision has nothing to do with the United States or anyone else.

Answering a question, the foreign minister said that Pakistan is not engaged in any secret diplomacy with the United States and it will not compromise on the nuclear issue. He regretted that India rejected every aspect of the U.S. proposal on making South Asia a nuclear-free zone.

Government May Accept 'Non-Intrusive' Nuclear Inspection

BK1905080994 Karachi DAWN in English 19 May 94 p 1

[Text] Islamabad, May 18—As President Farooq Ahmed Leghari embarked on a two-week "unofficial", but "working" visit to the United States, official circles here on Wednesday expressed cautious optimism on improvement of bilateral relations between Washington and Islamabad.

"The delivery of F-16s to Pakistan and the issue of non-intrusive inspection of our nuclear facilities by the United States, will possibly come under review during President Farooq Leghari's deliberations with the Clinton Administration," Foreign Minister Sardar Asif Ahmad Ali told newsmen.

In the light of India's refusal to the U.S. proposals on its nuclear non-proliferation Sardar Asif was asked to clarify Pakistan's position on its acceptance of nuclear "non-intrusive" inspection. He said: "If the U.S. proposals are acceptable to Pakistan and are totally in line with our nuclear policy, we will accept them."

Would Pakistan then be accepting them unilaterally, given the fact that India had already rejected all such American proposals? The Foreign Minister was unable to give a satisfactory reply.

Conceding that the "United States through its non-intrusive technical means was satisfied that Pakistan had not as yet produced nuclear weapons," the Foreign Minister listed recent positive developments which indicated a renewed U.S. understanding of Pakistan's stated position on its nuclear programme, which was now more "even-handed."

"The fact that the United States has not asked us to roll back our nuclear programme, but to cap it instead, and its viewing of the non-proliferation issue in the context of regional security," puts Pakistan on a "high moral ground", as opposed to India, who has bluntly refused the U.S. proposals on capping and verifiable physical or nonphysical inspection of its nuclear sites, he said.

The Foreign Minister was confident that Pakistan would not only get the 38 F-16s but also succeed in resolving the nuclear issue with the United States by the end of this year. "But, our view on receipt of F-16s and capping of our nuclear programme is very clear: the two have nothing to do with each other," Sardar Asif pointed out.

On the downside of U.S.-Pakistan relations, Sardar Asif, reacting sharply to the American State Department spokesman, Mike McCurry's statement on alleged official Pakistani support to the Kashmiri Mujahideen and that Pakistan could be put on the terrorist list any time, said: "We are extremely surprised that a senior official should make such an allegation against Pakistan. It leads us to believe that these kinds of statements are made perhaps to please Mr Narasimha Rao."

Sardar Asif said the Western world was bending backwards to please the Indian Prime Minister. "Selling cokes appears more important than solving the human rights problems," he remarked in reply to a question about the West disregarding India's human rights violations in lieu of economic trade-offs.

Sardar Asif, who leaves for Afghanistan on May 24 carrying peace proposals for the Afghan leaders, told newsmen that apart from re-opening the Pakistan mission in Kabul in the building the British government has partly handed over, he will discuss the possibility of opening another mission in Herat with General Ismail Khan.

The foreign minister will float the idea for an Afghanistan peace making fund, because when normality is restored, Afghanistan will need a lot of money for reconstruction.

Editorial Calls Kashmir-Nuclear Linkage 'Unavoidable'

*BK2705143894 Peshawar THE FRONTIER POST
in English 27 May 94 p 10*

[Editorial: "Linking Kashmir and the Nuclear Issue"]

[Text] President Farooq Leghari, currently on a visit to the United States, has in an interview with Cable News Network (CNN) urged the U.S. to play a key role in resolving the Kashmir issue. He has, at the same time, sought to establish a linkage between Kashmir and the nuclear issue, which remains high on the U.S. agenda. However, the problem is that current U.S. policy favours dealing with the two issues separately. This was fairly evident from the observations of the U.S. deputy secretary of state after his recent visit to the subcontinent. Kashmir, as far as the U.S. is concerned, is to be dealt with by India and Pakistan, bilaterally, under the terms of the Simla Agreement. This, of course, suits India which has successfully managed to avoid meaningful bilateral negotiations with Pakistan on the Kashmir issue for over two decades. At the same time, India has consistently turned down proposals for involving any third party in the matter and asserted, at times with a touch of the indignant, that the two neighbours were perfectly capable of resolving their own problems. However, it is clear that Pakistan now sees a third party role as unavoidable if India is to be pushed into addressing the Kashmir issue seriously and put an end to its efforts to resolve it through sheer brute force. Such a role would be far from unprecedented in the context of settling matters between the two countries. As President Leghari pointed out at another forum, the Indus Basin Treaty and the Runn of Kutch award were agreements reached on difficult issues only after third party intercession.

As for the nuclear issue, not only is the U.S. unwilling to link it with Kashmir, it also seems to be giving way to India's contention that the nuclear programmes of India and Pakistan cannot be treated on a par and should be dealt with separately by the United States. In effect, this means that the U.S. should continue to pressurise Pakistan through various means, such as the Pressler Amendment, while India continues developing its nuclear potential as well as missile technology. It may well be in this context that President Leghari has struck a tough note on the issue of inspection, of any kind, of nuclear sites. While a recent statement of the foreign minister made it seem as if Pakistan was willing to consider on merits a U.S. proposal for non-intrusive inspection, the president has now pointedly emphasised the aspect of linkage by asserting that Pakistan will accept inspection or verification regimes only in the context of a regional solution involving India. The U.S. may have logical

grounds for believing that certain major issues pertaining to the subcontinent are more amenable to a solution, when dealt with separately, but if such a mode is seen to work to the advantage of only one party the other is bound to see linkage, at least in some areas, as unavoidable.

Minister Reaffirms Nonproliferation Without Bias

*BK2405162694 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network
in English 1600 GMT 24 May 94*

[Text] The foreign minister, Sardar Asif Ahmad Ali, has said that the government is committed to nuclear nonproliferation without any discrimination. He said in Islamabad today that Pakistan will not accept any measures which only apply to Pakistan. He said Pakistan is willing to continue consultation with the United States within the framework of the ongoing dialogue on security and nonproliferation in South Asia and will give serious consideration to any specific proposals the United States may make in these consultations.

Spokesman Clarifies Foreign Minister's Nuclear Remarks

*BK2005024894 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network
in Urdu 0200 GMT 20 May 94*

[Text] A Foreign Office spokesman said that there has been no change in Pakistan's principled policy on the nuclear issue. Clarifying a statement by Foreign Minister Sardar Asif Ahmad Ali, the spokesman said that the press has attributed an incorrect statement to him. The foreign minister said that the United States proposed that if Pakistan agreed on a verifiable restriction [bandish] on its nuclear program, then there will be a one time exemption from the Pressler Amendment.

The foreign minister categorically reaffirmed the Pakistani stand that Pakistan was ready to consider all proposals on declaring South Asia a nuclear-free zone provided these proposals were just and nondiscriminatory. The spokesman said that the nuclear issue is an extremely sensitive one and a national consensus on it is very essential. He expressed the hope that the press will keep national interests in view and refrain from out of context presentations of statements on this most important issue.

Bhutto Forbids Ministerial Comment on Nuclear Issue

BK2705123794 Karachi DAWN in English 27 May 94 p 1

[Text] Islamabad, May 26—Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto on Thursday barred her cabinet members from issuing any statement on the country's nuclear programme.

"I will direct the ministers not to speak on the nuclear issue or answer any question in this regard," Ms. Bhutto said at a Press conference.

She said the nuclear issue was a specialised subject and some nonspecialists were spreading confusion by making statements or replying to questions asked by reporters.

Complaining that some newspapers twisted statements in this regard, Ms Bhutto said that from now onward, no one except herself would speak directly on the issue. "Even the foreign minister will give a written statement on the subject so that no one can twist it," she said and added that if any cabinet member had to reply to any question on the issue he should seek its answer from the foreign minister.

"Statements are printed to create confusion and that's why we say enough is enough," she added.

Ms Bhutto said that first a statement on rolling back Pakistan's nuclear programme was published and, though the government denied it, it was made an issue. "They want to trap us by (printing) such statements."

The Prime Minister regretted that every Tom, Dick and Harry had become an expert on this specialised subject. "They use terms like freezing, capping and rolling back, so loosely that Pakistan's interest is hurt."

Editorial Urges Bhutto To Clarify Nuclear, Missile Reports

*BK1905080294 Karachi NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu
17 May 94 p 4*

[Editorial: "The Nuclear Program and the Prime Minister's Credibility"]

[Text] In an interview with the GULF NEWS, former Army Chief General Aslam Beg claimed that during the tenure of her previous government, Ms. Benazir Bhutto withheld research on the nuclear missile program. He added that despite that order, work on the manufacture of long-range nuclear missiles continued for one year until August 1991. Efforts were also made to acquire M-11 missiles from China. But they were not successful at that time. Gen. Beg also explained that since the United States is trying to deprive Pakistan of a means to carry a nuclear warhead by suspending the supply of F-16's, the armed forces of Pakistan should give priority to the manufacture of missiles to carry warheads. According to Gen. Beg, research had been continuing until the end of his term despite Ms. Benazir Bhutto, in her capacity as the prime minister, banning it.

Gen. Beg's revelation requires the prime minister to take the nation into confidence and to explain why she issued orders against the production of missiles, which are so indispensable for the defense of the country and the nation. Earlier, Ms. Bhutto herself revealed that during her previous tenure of office she helped Rajiv Gandhi crush the Sikh freedom movement. Reports have also appeared now about Ms. Bhutto capping Pakistan's nuclear program during her previous term of office. These reports will definitely create doubts and apprehensions among the people about the credibility of Ms.

Bhutto as a national leader and prime minister of Pakistan. Therefore, it is imperative upon Ms. Bhutto to make necessary clarifications on the television and try to remove doubts and misgivings.

The Pakistani nation is much more sensitive than India on defense matters and there is a national consensus that we must be equipped with a nuclear deterrent to protect ourselves from Indian aggression. The nation rejected the recent U.S. pressure and it is not ready to allow an inspection of its nuclear installations in exchange for F-16's. The government should not make any mistake in realizing the sentiments of the nation and the needs of the country.

The reports published the other day about the meeting of the troika—the president, the prime minister, and the army chief—in connection with the upcoming visit of President Farooq Leghari to the United States are not at all a matter of satisfaction for the nation. These reports said that the government formulated a policy of rejecting a unilateral roll back of the nuclear program. The fact is that Pakistan cannot roll back its nuclear program even bilaterally, let alone unilaterally. First of all, India will not agree to it. The second is that Pakistan is several times weaker than India even in terms of conventional forces and weapons. Therefore, progress in the nuclear field should be our only aim in order to ensure the security of our nation and the protection of our country's independence.

Editorial Praises Leghari Nuclear Stance in U.S.
BK2605102094 Lahore JANG in Urdu 25 May 94 p 3

[Editorial: "President Leghari's Visit and Pakistan-U.S. Relations"]

[Text] President Sardar Farooq Ahmad Khan Leghari said that the nation is unanimous about Pakistan's nuclear program and no government can make any decision ignoring this consensus. He said that Pakistan will not tolerate any unilateral pressure or discriminatory treatment over its nuclear program. The president was addressing a gathering of Pakistani representatives of professional institutions of North America and Canada in Rochester, New York. The president said that Pakistan-U.S. relations are not confined to a single dimension; they are multidimensional. He said that his talks with U.S. authorities will cover all aspects.

Pakistan has been spelling out its position on the nuclear program for years, especially since the U.S. Government stopped economic and military aid four years ago on the pretext of the Pressler Amendment and refused to deliver the F-16 planes which were purchased by Pakistan. The Government of Pakistan tried to convince the United States about the peaceful nature of its nuclear program and clarified its stand at various levels that not only is Pakistan's nuclear program peaceful, but the nation is unanimous about it also. Moreover, Pakistan is

ready to implement any proposal on declaring the South Asian region a nuclear-free zone which is also acceptable to India.

Despite these clarifications, Pakistan has so far failed to persuade the U.S. Administration to stop enforcing the Pressler Amendment. Of course, the success it has achieved is that the United States is not pressuring Pakistan now to roll back its nuclear program unilaterally. This is an important and positive change in the U.S. attitude. However, the United States should also admit that the Pressler Amendment cannot bring an end to the arms race and halt attempts to manufacture nuclear weapons in South Asia. Neither did implementing the law against Pakistan prove helpful nor did it conform to the requirements of justice. Similarly, the United States should also realize that the people and various sections and circles in parliament are unanimous about Pakistan's nuclear program and it is therefore impossible to terminate the program by exerting pressure on the government.

During his current visit, President Farooq Ahmad Leghari is scheduled to hold extensive talks with U.S. authorities on a number of issues other than Pakistan's nuclear program. It is expected that our position will become clearer to the U.S. Government as a result of these talks. We also hope that the U.S. president will review the situation as a result of the Pakistani president's talks and not only supply the F-16 planes, but also stop making unjust and inequitable demands concerning the nuclear program issue.

Our position is that our nuclear program is peaceful and is presently in a frozen state. The United States is free to verify if it wants, using technical means provided it does not affect Pakistan's proclaimed nuclear program. It is hoped that President Leghari's visit will enable Pakistan and the United States to come closer to each other, boost the process of understanding, and help remove the prevailing misunderstanding. We also hope that the opposition will not become a victim of unjustified misunderstanding, nor will it create an impression which is contrary to reality.

As President Leghari has stated in recent interviews with "JANG" and "THE NEWS," all centers of power in Pakistan are sending the same hints and identical signals to the outside world and it is clear that Pakistan's stand is being devised by all centers of power jointly. Therefore, no one should have a misunderstanding or apprehension that any particular individual or circle can adopt or declare a unilateral stand on the nuclear issue. The whole nation should remain satisfied that any decision will be made with the consensus of all centers of power and nothing will be accepted which is not in the national interests.

YEMEN

Al-Bid Deputy Says Chemical Weapons Used in Shabwah

JN0306172294 Al-Dammam AL-YAWM in Arabic
28 May 94 p 1

[Report by Falih al-Saghir and Sa'ud al-Rayyis from Aden]

[Excerpt] Officials in Aden have welcomed international moves to halt the fighting in Yemen. 'Abd-al-Rahman al-Jifri, named by southern leader 'Ali Salim al-Bid as his deputy, said in a telephone interview with AL-YAWM that, for now, international intervention is the only way to stop the war.

Al-Jifri predicted imminent international recognition of south Yemen's secession. He said delay in recognition was natural in view of the rapid succession of developments in Yemen.

'Ali Salim al-Bid stood ready to meet with President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih anywhere, on condition that the meeting coincided with a cease-fire and a pullback by northern forces to the pre-unity lines. Victims of the offensive on Shabwah Governorate showed symptoms indicating the use of chemical weapons, al-Jifri said.

The southern official said he thought it unlikely that northern forces would enter Aden, citing strong defenses, rather than political considerations. [passage omitted]

REGIONAL AFFAIRS

Moscow Objects to Elimination of Kazakh's Missiles By U.S.

*LD1705135094 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1318 GMT 17 May 94*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Anatoliy Yurkin]

[Text] Moscow May 17 TASS—Kazakhstan wants to invite U.S. experts to dismantle Russian-made nuclear missiles which it had inherited from the former Soviet Union and the decision causes concern among the Russian military.

"The access of experts of third countries to Russian missile complexes for their dismantling contradicts the Russian-Kazakh agreement on strategic nuclear forces and the treaty on military cooperation", Aleksandr Volkov, first deputy commander-in-chief of the Russian Strategic Missile Forces, told TASS on Tuesday.

Russian experts are currently removing nuclear warheads from the missiles, extracting them from silos and preparing for transportation, according to Volkov who added that Russia had pledged to transfer to its territory all nuclear components for elimination by May 1, 1995. He stressed that financial aspects of dismantling and elimination have been fixed in a separate Russian-Kazakh agreement.

In the meantime, three U.S. companies want to eliminate the SS-18 missiles in Kazakhstan and are planning to request the U.S. Congress to appropriate 75 million dollars for that, according to Kazakh mass media which reported that the main bulk of the missiles is to be destroyed, while ten of them are to be used as spacecraft carriers. The Kazakh-U.S. cooperation idea in the sphere has emerged after the visit of President Nursultan Nazarbayev to the United States.

The invitation to U.S. experts to dismantle Russian missiles affects not only the Russian interests, but also of missile constructors in other CIS countries. According to Aleksandr Piskunov, deputy chairman of the Russian State Duma committee on defence, the Kazakh decision ignores the right to intellectual property and thus contradicts international norms.

RUSSIA

U.S., Germany Offer Help in Building Nuclear Waste Site

*LD2605145594 Moscow Radio Rossiya Network in Russian
1300 GMT 26 May 94*

[Text] The Americans have offered Russia assistance in building a burial site for radioactive waste. However, they have also stated that nuclear waste from the United States should be accepted at the burial site as a condition for doing so. Germany has also come forward with a similar proposal. Viktor Kutsenko, a representative of the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural

Resources, said this in an interview for the RIA agency. He stressed that Russia would not agree to the country being turned into a dumping ground for nuclear waste.

No Agreement With U.S. Proposed Nuclear Test Control System

*LD2505110394 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1017 GMT 25 May 94*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vyacheslav Bantin]

[Text] Hiroshima May 25 TASS—Russia cannot agree with a recent U.S. proposal on an international control system which will be necessary if an international agreement on stopping nuclear arms tests is concluded, ITAR-TASS learnt on Wednesday from reliable Russian sources participating now in the U.N. disarmament conference in the Japanese city of Hiroshima.

The multilateral talks to conclude an international agreement on stopping nuclear tests which started in Geneva last January, centre on a system of control.

According to the above sources, the American side recently offered its own model of control which presupposes the simultaneous application of six verification systems and the establishment of appropriate global structures.

Russian experts believe that it will take at least ten years to implement the U.S.-brokered model. Besides, it presupposes huge financial outlays, which is objected not only by Russia but also by other nuclear powers.

In contrast to Washington, Moscow believes that the application of two systems—seismic and atmospheric control—is quite sufficient. According to these sources, this viewpoint is backed by many participants in the nuclear tests talks in Geneva, including Japan.

The U.S. proposal, the official reply to which Moscow plans to give in the next few days, puts in jeopardy, as the sources stressed, the chance of the timely signing of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty which expires next year.

This is explained by the fact that most treaty participants, members of the Non-Aligned Movement in the main, insist that the nuclear powers should conclude an agreement on stopping nuclear tests. They agree to prolong the treaty for unlimited duration only under this condition.

UN Disarmament Conference Discusses Nuclear Test Ban

*LD2405180194 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1656 GMT 24 May 94*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vyacheslav Bantin]

[Text] Hiroshima May 24 TASS—Completely stopping nuclear tests, production of fissionable materials for military purposes, and enhancing in every possible way an international dialogue on strategical stability have now become top priority tasks for nuclear powers, Chief

of the Analysis and Prognosis Department in the Russian Foreign Ministry Ednan Agayev said at the U.N. disarmament conference which opened in the Japanese city of Hiroshima today.

Agayev noted that now the nuclear restraining philosophy does not serve as a factor greatly influencing interrelations between Russia and the United States, and expressed the opinion that largest nuclear powers are now gradually reconsidering their concepts of nuclear restraint. In particular, it is testified by the fact that they are adhering to the moratorium on nuclear tests, which was until now considered to be an indispensable part of the nuclear strategy, he added. "It would be naive to think that international negotiations on banning nuclear tests within the conference on disarmament framework, which are underway in Geneva, will move ahead easily and speedily," the high-ranking Russian Foreign Ministry official noted. "But the rejection of nuclear tests by all states will, undoubtedly, help successfully holding them," he said.

Agayev said limiting and stopping production of fissionable materials for military purposes is one of the most important efforts made in this direction by nuclear powers. "The fulfillment of this task could become a reality, if nuclear powers would look at their nuclear arsenals as an attribute of history and actively seek for their reduction," he said.

Touching upon the problem of international security under conditions of a gradual reduction in nuclear weapons, the Russian official emphasised the importance of the dialogue on strategical stability which Russia is continuing currently not only with the United States and other nuclear powers, but also with such countries as Germany and Japan. Consultations on security with the participation of military and intelligence departments' representatives might help strengthen mutual trust and expedite cuts in nuclear arsenals, he added.

"The dialogue on strategical stability helps elicit ideas which might form the basis of a new concept of security that is called on to replace nuclear restraint," the Russian diplomat noted.

Nuclear Explosion Allegedly Planned in Chechnya

Dudayev Breaks News

LD0106155794 Moscow NTV in Russian
1500 GMT 1 Jun 94

[Text] The Chechen president has again spoken of the Russian threat. Dzhokhar Dudayev has stated that the Russian special services are drawing up a plan to organize an underground nuclear explosion on the republic's territory. Speaking on Grozny television, Dudayev

claimed that the special services may well implement this plan since their previously prepared attempt to physically remove the Chechen president ended in failure. During his appearance on television Dudayev expressed the opinion that if this plan for a localized nuclear explosion in Chechnya is carried out then the Russian special services will blame the republic's leadership for it, basing their statements on previously disseminated disinformation that Chechnya supposedly has components for nuclear weapons. The Russian foreign intelligence service has already categorically denied Dudayev's claims.

Incidentally, President Dudayev issued a decree today introducing a curfew throughout the territory of the republic from 2200 local time.

Intelligence Issues Denial

LD0106162194 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1607 GMT 1 Jun 94

[Text] Moscow June 1 TASS—The Russian foreign intelligence service denied Chechen President Dzhokhar Dudayev's allegations on Wednesday that Russian secret services are planning to stage a local nuclear explosion in the Chechen Republic.

"Such statements are absurd," foreign intelligence spokeswoman Tatyana Samolis said.

Dudayev said on Chechen television that following the failed attempt on his life, Russian secret services may stage a local nuclear blast. He also said that should this happen, they will then accuse the Chechen Republic, saying that it possesses a nuclear component.

World Forum in St. Petersburg Discusses Nuclear Industry

LD2305213294 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian
1900 GMT 23 May 94

[Text] Russia strictly follows the strategy of mutually beneficial cooperation on the world raw uranium and uranium technologies market, and is willing to take part in setting a price quota, which would take into consideration the interests of other countries, said Viktor Mikhaylov, Russian minister for nuclear energy, speaking at the opening in St. Petersburg of the 21st international conference "The World Market for Nuclear Fuel."

ITAR-TASS reports that the forum, held in Russia for the first time, is attended by experts from 20 countries. For two days they will debate the reconstruction of the nuclear industry on the global level, bearing in mind the development of nuclear stations in both Europe and South-East Asia, as well as Russia's emergence on the world market of uranium fuel.

Shumeyko Visits Strategic Missile Units in Ivanovo

LD2005141994 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1107 GMT 20 May 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Mikhail Shevtsov]

[Text] Moscow May 20 TASS—Chairman of the Russian Federation Council Vladimir Shumeyko decided to personally look into the state of affairs in the Russian Armed Forces on the eve of the upper chamber's examination of the military budget. On Friday he left for the Ivanovo region, where a missile army is stationed.

Shumeyko was accompanied on his trip by commander-in-chief of the strategic missile troops Colonel-General Igor Sergeyev. The missile army is partly armed with the newest "Topol" missile system, destined to become the core of Russia's future strategic missile forces.

Igor Sergeyev told ITAR-TASS that today's talks between the missile troops command and Vladimir Shumeyko would center around the problems faced by those troops. These problems, he said, "are rooted in the share of the budget which is to be allotted the strategic missile troops".

Shumeyko will be shown the troops' battle capabilities and the main components of the training which those who are entrusted with the country's nuclear weapons must undergo. The Federation Council chairman intends to meet with some of the army's officers as well.

Sergeyev said he was grateful to Shumeyko for deciding to first visit the strategic missile units before making a decision on the military budget. "That is explainable, since the Russian military doctrine lays the most responsibility for the state's safety and strategic stability on our forces. The strategic missile troops are the main component of Russia's strategic nuclear forces", the general said.

He further noted that the many problems encountered by the troops are being resolved without compromising their battle capabilities and reliability. The strategic missile troops had to shoulder most of the responsibility under the START-1 and START-2 international disarmament treaties.

At present, the commander-in-chief explained, about 60 per cent of the rocket carriers and warheads of the strategic nuclear forces are concentrated in the missile troops. These types of weapons are due to be reduced to one-sixth their former size. Sergeyev also pointed out that, even without any international treaties, Russia would have to eliminate the weapons which used to be produced in the other ex-Soviet Republics.

Russian Defence Minister Pavel Grachev declared at a recent press conference that the country's strategic nuclear forces were the main guarantee of Russia's security in the modern world. At present as well as in the future, the top priority in the development of the armed

forces will be given to strategic nuclear weapons, which are the main deterrent factor against any outbreak of hostilities, he said.

The divisions and regiments of the strategic missile troops, which are at the centre of the nuclear forces, are now being technically reequipped. In the last two years, seven more missile regiments have been made battle-capable, all equipped with new stationary and mobile missile systems.

At the same time, strategic missile units are being withdrawn from the other ex-Soviet Republics. By the end of 1994, another four missile regiments are due to be relocated to Russian territory.

Obninsk Nuclear Research Center Faces Shutdown

MK2505122094 Moscow MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 25 May 94 p 1

[Unattributed report under the "What's New In Russia" rubric: "Settling Scores Before Nuclear Reactor"]

[Text] The fire-fighting crew presented an ultimatum to the chiefs of the Obninsk Nuclear Research Center: Either they pay the two months' arrears in wages or the fire-fighters decline responsibility for protecting the nuclear reactors of the physics and power engineering institute. Specialists think an unscheduled shutdown of the reactors could entail unpredictable consequences. The "Obninskorgaz," to which the nuclear research center is also in debt, has threatened to stop gas supplies.

Experimental Facility To Treat Liquid Nuclear Waste

OW2105023494 Vladivostok Radiostantsiya Tikhii Okean Maritime Network in Russian 0715 GMT 14 May 94

[Vladimir Kuvardin report; from the "Pacific Ocean" program]

[Text] Our listeners are sure to know that a joint Russian-Japanese commission on problems of storage and utilization of liquid radioactive waste—ZHRO [zhidkiye radioaktivnyye otkhody] for short—worked in April in Tokyo, Vladivostok, and Bolshoy Kamen. Two variants for the utilization of liquid radioactive waste are being developed, and the final variant will be chosen in mid-May. Japan undertakes its financing.

I met this week with Stanislav Nikolayevich Pechugin, chief engineer of the Murmansk repair and technological enterprise of the nuclear fleet, who was on a business trip in our city. This is the talk that we had: [begin recording]

Pechugin: A convention forbidding the dumping of ZHRO into seas and oceans began to be implemented in 1986-87. According to this convention, the ice breaking nuclear fleet must stop its activity completely, or somehow find a solution for purifying liquid radioactive waste. There are technical service vessels in the fleet, among them tankers, where the ZHRO is accumulated. But it cannot be accumulated

indefinitely, and the Murmansk Maritime Steamship Company decided—our enterprise was a part of the steamship company at that time—to deal with this problem itself. In other words, the problem was being solved at the state level. Money for planning and building a special water purification system at our enterprise was allocated. However, we were still at the planning stage at the time, and the end of construction was still far away. Our enterprise and the Murmansk Steamship Company invited three Moscow scientific research institutes to solve the problem. The problem cannot be called a new one because nuclear power stations have been working for a long time, and they were solving the problem of purifying their ZHRO. However, they have their own specific problems. There was still no solution to the question of processing the ZHRO of transportation nuclear reactors. Our enterprise has created an experimental industrial facility for purifying liquid radioactive waste. At present, this is a facility of small capacity of about 1,500 cubic meters a year. It needs further development. We have been purifying liquid nuclear waste produced at ice breakers and at our facility since 1988, and today neither the steamship company nor our facility has any liquid waste, and that being produced is immediately purified. Therefore, the accumulated waste in the tankers of the nuclear technological fleet has all been processed. Today, we need certain means to complete our facility. However, all our efforts were directed at purifying radionuclides, and problems of pure chemistry and the tail process, that is, of solidifying of the still residue [kubovyy ostatok] were not solved. Today, it is possible to complete it, but lack of funds prevents us from doing so.

A conference initiated by heads of the Murmansk and Arkhangelsk Oblast administrations was held in February in Arkhangelsk. All specialists of transportation nuclear facilities were invited, and Nuclear Energy Minister Mikhaylov was present. Among other things, solutions for the ZHRO problem was discussed. A decision has been adopted that after the appropriate expertise and presentation of substantiations, the problem of northern basin ZHRO would be solved at our facility. In other words, we will become the main organization for purifying ZHRO of both the civil nuclear fleet and the Navy, and also of defense [word indistinct] enterprises.

Kuvardin: Stanislav Nikolayevich, do Zvezda plant specialists know of your enterprise?

Pechugin: I will not speak for them, but the general designer of the [word indistinct] knows it very well, since they designed some of our facilities.

Kuvardin: Given time, they could adopt some of your experience.

Pechugin: Yes, probably. I talked to the Zvezda plant KIP [monitoring and testing center] on the telephone before leaving for Vladivostok, and they asked me to accept their specialists to study our facility. We did not refuse, but these things are still not done free of charge today. I think that we will reach an agreement.

Special Plugs Used To Prevent Leaks From Sunken Nuclear Sub

LD2705131494 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1036 GMT 27 May 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Lev Frolov]

[Text] St. Petersburg May 27 TASS—Special titanic [Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian at 0900 GMT on 27 May 1994 describes the "titanic" plugs as "titanium"] plugs from St. Petersburg will be used to prevent the leak of plutonium from the nuclear torpedo warheads aboard the sunken Russian submarine "Komsomolets." They should seal the openings in the fore part of the submarine, which is resting at the depth of 1700 meters.

The devices have rubber compacters which should, according to those who worked on the project, reduce the circulation of water currents in the shattered hull of the boat. That, in turn, will put a brake on the destruction of the torpedo shells. As a result, the likelihood that products of corrosion will wash away the plutonium and pollute the underwater ecological system with radioactive toxic waste will be decreased.

The first titanic "plugs" have already been taken on board the research ship "Academic Mstislav Keldysh." The ship is supposed to quit the St. Petersburg harbor in about a month and set course for the burial site of the atomic submarine.

ITAR-TASS was told by Igor Spasskiy, head of the Central Naval Technology Design Bureau, that the devices will be installed in the "Komsomolets" with the help of the "Mir" underwater manned apparatuses, which are equipped with external manipulators.

The scientists also plan to carry out detailed radiation monitoring. The hydrological station which has been near the submarine for the past year will be hoisted on board the research ship. There the scientists will analyze the station's information about hydrodynamic processes and the speed and direction of ocean currents in an effort to get a good picture of the real condition of the sunken submarine.

UKRAINE

Officials Assess U.S. Agreements on Missile Transfer, Space

LD1705213294 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian
1930 GMT 17 May 94

[Text] Kiev [no dateline as received]—Members of Ukraine's working delegation to Washington attended a briefing at Ukraine's Foreign Ministry on 17 May. Ukraine's Deputy Prime Minister Valeriy Shmarov, who led the delegation, believes the signing of the memorandum on mutual understanding between the governments of Ukraine and the United States on the transfer

of missile equipment and technology has become an important step in Ukraine's accession to the world distribution of labor in the implementation of space programs, since no country owns a complete production cycle in this area. The document also illustrates the fact that "Ukraine has joined the group of civilized countries, instead of falling to the level of Iraq or North Korea."

In the course of negotiations, the Ukrainian side managed to persuade the United States to lift the clause in the agreement on space cooperation between the United States and Russia that concerns the countries of the former Soviet Union as one which infringes upon the rights of the third party.

Giving a generally favorable assessment of the trip's results, Valeriy Kazakov, deputy minister of machine-building, military-industrial complex, and conversion, said that despite U.S. assurances of a fine state of relations between the United States and Ukraine, economic cooperation and work in the sphere of conversion is proceeding slowly. A great deal of attention during the visit was paid to the intensification of conversion programs. For example, it was possible to agree to a list of 35 enterprises subject to immediate restructuring. The U.S. side has allocated 20 million dollars to this end.

Asked by UNIAN to comment on the breakthrough in the U.S. attitude to Ukraine, Deputy Foreign Minister Borys Tarasyuk said it reflected international reality and our country's consistent policy stance. Tarasyuk emphasized that this change began after the signing of the trilateral statement by Ukraine, Russia, and the United States.

Rukh Appeals For Suspension of Nuclear Withdrawal

LDI 705083994 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian
2039 GMT 16 May 94

[Text] Kiev [no date as received]—The People's Movement of Ukraine [RUKh] circulated an appeal to the Council for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the UN Security Council

"Events that have recently taken place in the Crimean autonomous republic, which is an inalienable and constituent part of the Ukrainian state, are testimony of the real possibility of the region turning into a zone of permanent threat to peace and stability in Europe," the document says. The authors of the appeal note that "flagrant violations of Ukraine's constitution based on including on the agenda for a session of the Supreme Council of Crimea issues on the creation of Crimea's own armed forces, the introduction of dual citizenship, completely ignoring the interests of the indigenous Crimean Tatar and the Ukrainian population, and the redeployment of military formations from the territory of Russia to the Crimean peninsula, are acts aimed at violating civic peace on the territory of Crimea thus creating the grounds for the emergence of an armed conflict."

In RUKh's view, the situation arose as a result of direct and permanent interference by state officials of the Russian Federation in the affairs of a neighboring state.

The Black Sea Fleet is being used by Russia as an instrument of forced pressure.

Vyacheslav Chornovil, who signed the appeal, stressed that under these conditions the "process of the further withdrawal of nuclear warheads from Ukraine in accordance with the trilateral agreement should be suspended."

RUKh appeals to the Council for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the UN Security Council since, in RUKh's view, "only the intervention of institutions that are called on to maintain security in Europe can defend peace in the region and prevent the creation of a new zone of international tension."

Leaders of Nuclear Plants Set Conditions for Operation

AU2605113894 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian
24 May 94 p 4

[“Statement by Leaders of Ukraine's Atomic Power Engineering Complex”]

[Text] Realizing our responsibility before Ukraine in providing the national economy with electricity and realistically assessing the conditions that are necessary for the atomic plants to cope with the load during the fall and winter periods of 1994-95, leaders of the atomic power engineering complex state the following:

1. The fulfillment of the state plan for producing electricity in 1994 is impossible for the following reasons:
 - there are no funds for purchasing nuclear fuel or spare parts;
 - the Power Engineering Ministry's debt to atomic plants constitutes 1.7 trillion karbovantsi;
 - the rate for the electricity produced by atomic plants does not even make it possible to satisfy minimal needs [of power engineers].
2. The failure to finance operational outlays will result in the need to stop a number of power units (five out of 12).
3. The following is necessary to ensure the provision with nuclear fuel, proper repairs, and timely commissioning of power units:
 - to increase the share of convertible currency capital allocated on the terms of tender;
 - to issue state credits to the Ministry of Power Engineering to enable it to pay debts to atomic plants;
 - to raise the rates for the electricity produced by atomic electric power plants [AES].
4. The above questions require immediate consideration and resolution.

M. Umanets, Chairman of the State Committee for Atomic Energy;

V. Bronnykov, General Director of the Production Association "Zaporizhzhya AES";

V. Fuks, General Director of the Production Association "Southern Ukrainian AES";

S. Parashyn, General Director of the Production Association "Chernobyl AES";

V. Korovkin, Director of the Rivne AES;

V. Sapronov, Director of the Khmelnytskyy AES.

Cesium-137 Contaminates Nikolayev Plant, Affects 11 Persons

AU2505130394 Kiev DEMOKRATYCHNA UKRAYINA in Ukrainian 24 May 94 p 4

[Statement by the Press Center of Ukraine's Security Service: "Radiation for Consumption Off the Premises"]

[Text] As already reported, a capsule containing cesium-137, which is a part of the control and measurement

equipment in the furnace for quicklime slaking, had been stolen from the Nikolayev Alumina Plant. In accordance with tentative data, several persons, who are yet to be identified in the course of investigation, stole a steel capsule from the equipment, fixed it in a screw-vice in the workshop and tried to pulverize it in the hope that it contained a precious metal. The hermetic seal of the capsule was broken. The offenders threw its fragments into the fire-prevention reservoir filled with water. As a result of the actions, the reservoir and the adjacent premises of the plant were contaminated.

After the disappearance of the capsule became known, the territory of the plant was thoroughly examined. Places of radioactive contamination were pinpointed. Their total area amounts to 25 square meters. The territory around the reservoir was covered with concrete. There is no danger of spread of the radioactive contamination.

Eleven persons were exposed to various doses of radiation. Three workers were hospitalized in the Kharkiv Radiological Institute. None of those affected was diagnosed as suffering from "radiation disease." A criminal case was initiated.

FRANCE

Amendment To Resume Nuclear Tests Submitted to Parliament

*BR2405143094 Paris LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS
in French 24 May 94 p 5*

[Unattributed report: "Jacques Baumel Puts His Foot Down"]

[Text] In line with his credo, the Gaullist Jacques Baumel has decided to put his foot down. The RPR [Rally for the Republic] deputy chairman of the parliamentary defense committee on Saturday tabled an amendment to the bill for the military programming law for the period 1995-2000, stressing the need to resume nuclear testing.

During a televised interview on 10 May, Francois Mitterrand nonetheless said with regard to the resumption of nuclear testing: "Where such a serious issue is concerned, if Parliament or the government were to significantly disagree with me, I would ask the people to decide." The head of state did not specify whether this call to the people would come in the form of a referendum or if he would dissolve the National Assembly.

Jacques Baumel's amendment mentions the need for a "resumption of nuclear testing" to acquire the means of simulating tests. Before coming up for general debate, the amendment is to be examined this morning by the defense committee. The deputy explained: "I am trying to clear up the skillfully maintained confusion according to which a simulation device" such as the PALEN (Preparation of a Limitation of Nuclear Testing) system can be acquired "without testing." He recognized that no experiments could be carried out before the end of Francois Mitterrand's term of office. Jacques Baumel stressed that this delay "does not, however, mean that tests should not be planned for a later stage in order to preserve the future," and he reiterated that the planning law covered six years.

Senate Speaker Agrees With Mitterrand on N-Test Moratorium

*BR1705132094 Paris LE MONDE in French
17 May 94 p 10*

[Unattributed report: "Mr. Monory Agrees With Mr. Mitterrand on Nuclear Test Moratorium"]

[Excerpts] Senate Speaker Rene Monory (UDF-CDS [Union for French Democracy-Social Democratic Center]) thinks that the idea of a referendum on employment launched by Philippe Seguin (RPR [Rally for the Republic]), his National Assembly counterpart, is "too simple." Mr. Monory, who was the guest on the Radio-J "Forum" program on Sunday, 15 May, said: "Employment deserves more than passing comments. It requires a series of measures. We must stop indulging in demagoguery and controversy.... I think that the majority and

opposition should not taunt each other with each other's failures." The Senate speaker hopes that the presidential election will provide the opportunity "for a great debate" on this employment question. "Otherwise, we will be heading for decline," he said. [passage omitted]

Questioned on the disagreement between the prime minister and the president of the Republic on the question of the moratorium on nuclear tests, Mr. Monory expressed the view that this controversy is "rather pointless" because "our decision," he said, "is determined more than ever by the attitude of our big partners." Taking up the argument used by Francois Mitterrand during his 10 May television speech, he added: "It is true that if the others do not resume the tests, we will not resume them, and if the others do resume them, we will resume them."

On the question of the European elections, the Senate speaker, who had supported Dominique Baudis as candidate to head the UDF-RPR [Rally for the Republic] list, thinks that "35 percent" would be "a good score."

Balladur Says Country Reserves Right To Resume Nuclear Tests

*AU2405180394 Paris AFP in English
1718 GMT 24 May 94*

[Text] Paris, May 24 (AFP)—France reserves the right to resume nuclear testing, Prime Minister Edouard Balladur said on Tuesday, opening a debate in parliament on the country's military programme from 1995 until 2000.

Balladur said France was "not committed by any international constraint" on nuclear testing, alluding to a dispute between his right-wing government and socialist President Francois Mitterrand, who opposes a resumption of tests.

"I can assure you that this freedom of choice (to resume testing) will be preserved," Balladur said.

France has observed a moratorium on nuclear testing since April 1992, along with the United States, Russia and Britain. China carried out a nuclear test on October 5 last year.

Mitterrand, who under the constitution has sole power to decide on testing, said recently his successor would in any case be unable to order a resumption because his hands would be tied by the 1995 renewal of the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, to be followed by a nuclear test ban treaty.

Mitterrand will step down in May 1995 and his successor is expected to be a conservative.

Balladur told parliament that the military planning bill, which calls for an increase in spending of 0.5 percent, urged "a major unprecedented effort" to simulate and miniaturise the nuclear weapons of the future which would guarantee "the credibility of our nuclear arsenal."

The Gaullist component of the ruling right-wing coalition, the Rally for the Republic (RPR), has campaigned for a resumption of testing, but RPR parliamentary leader Bernard Pons said Tuesday his government would vote for the bill.

Nuclear test campaigner Jacques Baumel, vice-chairman of the National Assembly's defence committee, would agree to withdraw an amendment calling for a resumption of tests in 1995 to acquire simulation capacity, Pons said.

He said an overwhelming majority of RPR MPs favoured a resumption of testing to develop a system of simulation, but that it would be up to the next president to decide.

Defence Minister Francois Leotard told parliament Tuesday that in 2000, France would have the second biggest defense budget in the West, after the United States, and "the biggest force on the European continent."

He said there would be nearly 580,000 soldiers and civilians serving in the armed forces.

Leotard Says Scientists Calling For Further Nuclear Tests

AU1705104194 Paris AFP in English
1014 GMT 17 May 94

[Text] Paris, May 17 (AFP)—French Defense Minister Francois Leotard said Tuesday that the scientific community believed additional nuclear tests were essential in order to develop the capacity to simulate tests in the laboratory.

Leotard, speaking on French radio, said that "the scientific community tells us that we need a few more tests," and added that he had not met a single scientist who believes otherwise.

"France must acquire as quickly as possible—perhaps in seven, eight or 10 years—the capacity to simulate tests that would allow us to test the effects of a nuclear explosion," Leotard said. "That is essential for our country if we are to remain a major power."

He said those opposed to nuclear testing are generally "politicians," an apparent reference to President Francois Mitterrand who is against France resuming nuclear [sentence as received].

Mitterrand, who has exclusive powers to order tests, wants to stand by a moratorium observed by all the United Nations Security Council members except China.

GERMANY

Reporting on Plutonium Found in Baden-Wuerttemberg

Material 'Weapon-Grade'

AU2705130894 Hamburg DPA in German
1222 GMT 27 May 94

[Excerpts] Stuttgart (DPA)—The plutonium seized in Baden-Wuerttemberg at the beginning of May is weapon-grade material. As DPA learned from a well-informed source on Friday [27 May], the material, which was not recognized by the authorities for weeks, is 56 grams of plutonium-239 in powder form. According to the information, the highly poisonous material was found during the search of an apartment in Tengen near Konstanz in the course of investigations involving money forging. [passage omitted]

So far, no information has been provided about the origin of the material. On Thursday the Environment Ministry announced that the material probably came from Eastern Europe. The Land Office of Criminal Investigations (LKA) in Stuttgart, which is responsible for the investigations, has announced that it will issue a statement on Friday. The Konstanz Public Prosecutor's Office has not commented so far. [passage omitted]

Police Detain Businessman

AU2705182694 Hamburg DPA in German
1532 GMT 27 May 94

[Excerpts] Stuttgart (DPA)—The plutonium seized during the search of an apartment in Baden-Wuerttemberg in May is suitable for the construction of a nuclear bomb. [passage omitted]

The Land Office of Criminal Investigations (LKA) and the Konstanz Public Prosecutor's Office have meanwhile announced that the highly dangerous material was found during the search of an apartment on 10 May in the course of investigating a case of counterfeiting money. The plutonium was stored in a cylindrical lead container that weighs 4.5 kg, is 11 cm tall, and was closed with a steel band.

According to the investigating authorities, the owner of the apartment that was searched, a 52-year-old German businessman is in detention pending trial on suspicion of dealing in counterfeit money. During questioning, he claimed that the powder is a substance for refining metal. The LKA in Stuttgart has stated that the investigations of the counterfeiting affair are conducted by the Bavarian LKA. The Baden-Wuerttemberg authorities had only provided legal aid. [passage omitted]

Defense Ministry Wants Easing of Arms Export Restrictions

LD2505105794 Berlin N-TV in German
1000 GMT 25 May 94

[Text] The Defense Ministry in Bonn wants to ease the strict German arms control restrictions. A Defense Ministry strategy document envisages the founding of a European agency to make future decisions on all arms exports.

Correspondent C. Meincke: The detour via Europe is intended to open up new sales markets for German arms products. The confidential Defense Ministry strategy document for the planned European arms agency says that the project would only make sense if national restrictions were lifted. However, this would also involve an amendment to the Maastricht Treaty, which lays down that production of and trade in war materials are governed by national laws. Thus, in future the agency alone should make decisions on arms deals. This would mean for example that the loose French restrictions could also be applied to Germany.

Since the military strategists are aware of the reluctance of the British to enter into such close cooperation, they want to find a small club of determined partners, which will include above all France. The Defense Ministry predicts that trade being carried out through the arms agency would cost many jobs. This price would however have to be paid, since in free competition, the highly efficient German arms industry as a whole would probably emerge as a net profit-maker.

Relaxation of Arms Exports to OECD Imminent

AU0306174294 Munich SUEDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG
in German 3 Jun 94 p 2

[mes' report: "SPD: Expansion of Arms Exports"]

[Text] Bonn—Government resolutions that could lead to a relaxation of the rules governing arms exports will have a bearing on parliament. On Thursday, the SPD [Social Democratic Party of Germany] spoke of a "major departure" from current practice concerning the granting of export permits, and demanded that the relevant Bundestag committees be informed. The reason is a decision by the Federal Security Council reached some time ago, whereby individual permission will no longer be required for deliveries of weapons parts to the 25 countries of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development [OECD].

The Economics Ministry confirmed this resolution last week, and said that the Association of German Industry [BDI] would now be informed about it. BDI spokesman Volker Franzen welcomed the decision, saying that German enterprises would no longer be at a disadvantage vis-a-vis other European firms. On the other hand, Hermann Bachmaier, the SPD Bundestag faction's expert on arms exports controls, criticized the whole

procedure, saying that the government's principles governing arms exports, laid down in 1982 and never officially abolished, would thus be circumvented to a major extent.

According to the government's resolution, supplies of weapons parts to partner enterprises in the OECD will be permissible provided that the German share in the final product does not exceed 20 percent. This relaxation does not apply to nuclear, biological, and chemical weapons, nor to carrier systems. In addition, the partner firms are to reach agreement with each other on "which countries can and cannot receive supplies." The to-date practice of individual permits will continue to apply to exports of weapons to Third World countries.

The Economics Ministry claimed that the new rules lie "within the framework of the export-political principles" of 1982, adopted by the government of Helmut Schmidt. Without specifically mentioning the OECD, the Ministry said that the exports of armaments outside NATO remains restricted and, in particular, "may not lead to the expansion of export-capable armaments production capacity." Employment considerations should also play no special significance in exports of war weapons, it was said.

According to SPD deputy Bachmaier, the new resolutions will lead to a "massive expansion" of arms exports by German firms to areas beyond NATO. That would also make German weapons firms "indirectly" involved in weapons deliveries to the world's crisis spots. Bachmaier also referred to the Defense Ministry's "planning games" on the subject of establishing a European "Agency for Arms Exports." Plans like this would cause a further departure from the relatively strong German control criteria governing arms exports.

Apparently, German industry has been eagerly expecting the new regulations. In a statement replying to the government resolution, German Aerospace said that European defense industries, beset by falling personnel levels, shrinking markets, and exploding costs, will be forced to adopt new forms of cooperation. "What is needed now is real Euro-firms that are capable of transcending all levels of depreciation and political borders, and can operate on the basis of their own entrepreneurial responsibility," said German Aerospace.

ITALY

Official Arrested for Selling Uranium, Plutonium

BR2405150194 Bern ATSA/SDAA Database in French
1443 GMT 23 May 94

[Article signed BZ/BA/PO: "Following the Arrest of Romano Dolce. Swiss Authorities Deceived. Canton of Zurich Wants To Take Action."]

[Text] Como/Zurich, 23 May (ATS)—The Deputy Public Prosecutor of Como (Italy), Romano Dolce, arrested last Friday, has probably duped the Swiss

authorities for years. To hide his own fraudulent activities, he sent them wrong or incomplete information. The canton of Zurich wants to clear up the affair.

Marcel Bertschi, the Zurich public prosecutor, told ATS [Swiss Press Agency] on Monday that his office intends taking action, confirming a report in the Swiss-German weekly newspaper SONNTAGSZEITUNG. However, a spokesman for the Federal Justice and Police Department said that Italy has yet to ask Switzerland for international judicial cooperation.

Swiss Involvement

Romano Dolce, aged 59, was arrested in Como by the town's police. He was well-known in Switzerland. He was in fact in charge of the investigation into the illegal trafficking of uranium, plutonium, and red mercury between Switzerland and Italy and between the countries of eastern Europe and Italy.

Together with five other people, including his secretary, an officer in the "Guardia di Finanza" (the financial police), Mr. Dolce stands accused of having participated in the illegal trafficking of arms, explosives, and radioactive material. According to the Como police, the network has branches in Switzerland and eastern Europe.

Swiss Authorities Duped

Following his arrest, the Italian authorities explained to the press how Romano Dolce had duped his Swiss colleagues to cover his own tracks.

In 1991, for example, the magistrate had submitted false documents to the Swiss Justice Department concerning supposed trading in uranium, which led to the arrest of a Swiss businessman who was found carrying a sample of uranium. In fact, this maneuver had concealed a larger operation, diverting the attention of the Swiss authorities away from deals in which Romano Dolce was involved.

Also in 1991, according to SONNTAGSZEITUNG, the magistrate had similarly tipped off the Zurich police about a deal involving 30 kg of uranium. In 1992, in Como, he arrested a Swiss man carrying a sample of plutonium. The same year, a Swiss-Italian uranium

traffic was uncovered, again on a tip-off from Romano Dolce. The material in question in fact turned out to be totally inoffensive.

For the time being, Romano Dolce remains under arrest. He has been put at the disposal of Brescia [Italy] magistrates since the Como prosecutor's office is not empowered to examine its own magistrate. The five people who stand accused with Mr. Dolce include the Italian Aldo Anghessa (aged 50), currently held in the La Stampa prison in Lugano.

SWEDEN

Customs Attempt To Stop Uranium Smuggling From Russia

LD3105074194 Helsinki Suomen Yleisradio Network in Finnish 0600 GMT 31 May 94

[Text] The Swedish customs authorities have tightened their border controls to stop uranium being smuggled through the country. According to Swedish Radio, the country's authorities have received a tip-off that an attempt will be made to smuggle to Germany via Sweden a two kg consignment of enriched uranium, stolen in Russia. This is uranium 235, which is used in nuclear weapons.

SWITZERLAND

Swiss Specialists Part of UN Inspection Team in Iraq

BR2605154194 Bern ATSA/SDAA Database in French 0915 GMT 26 May 94

[Article signed BB: "Swiss Nationals Among a UN Inspection Team in Iraq"]

[Text] Bern, 26 May (ATS)—UN inspectors once again will conduct investigations in Iraq 26 May-9 June in the field of biological and chemical weapons. Three Swiss nationals will be part of the team: Messrs. Marc Faessler, Heiner Staub, and Ueli Huber. These Swiss specialists work for the AC laboratory of Spiez. They already have participated in such missions, according to a communique from the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs.

IAEA Attempts to Inspect DPRK Fuel Rods Replacement

IAEA Inspectors Leave for Pyongyang

SK1705063994 Seoul YONHAP in English
0633 GMT 17 May 94

[Text] Beijing, May 17 (YONHAP)—Inspectors from the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] left Beijing for Pyongyang aboard a (North) Korean airways plane Tuesday [17 May] afternoon.

The three IAEA experts will conduct additional inspections of nuclear laboratories at Yongbyon, 100 km north of Pyongyang, and check whether nuclear fuel rods have been replaced at the North's 5-megawatt reactor.

The inspections, coming after a two-month pause, are important because they will determine whether the dispute over Pyongyang's nuclear program is referred to the United Nations Security Council for sanctions, or the United States and North Korea hold a third round of high-level talks.

Before departing for Pyongyang, the head of the IAEA inspectors stated that he can say nothing before the actual inspections, which will begin as soon as possible.

Western sources here said the IAEA experts may differ with North Korean officials on the scope of the inspections, but such disagreement will never be so serious as to block the holding of a third round of high-level talks between Washington and Pyongyang.

North Korea is likely to employ the two undeclared nuclear facilities as a final card to be used in negotiations with the United States and the IAEA. Whether the North accepts inspections of the two undeclared sites will be the final issue to be resolved at the negotiations, the sources said.

Meanwhile, the three-man IAEA team will end the first stage of inspections by this weekend and report the results to agency headquarters in Vienna. This means a decision on the third round of high-level dialogue between Washington and Pyongyang will come next week at the latest.

Inspectors Arrive in Pyongyang

SK1705151594 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1509 GMT 17 May 94

[Text] Pyongyang, May 17 (KCNA)—A group of three inspectors of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] arrived here by air today upon agreement between the DPRK and the IAEA.

Their inspection is expected to last approximately a week.

'Quite a Few' Rods Already Replaced

SK1605231594 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean
2200 GMT 16 May 94

[Report by Cha Man-sun from Vienna]

[Text] Yun Ho-chin, North Korean working-level representative on the nuclear issue, revealed on 17 May that North Korea has already replaced quite a few of its burnt nuclear fuel rods at the five-megawatt reactor in Yongbyon and that the replacement job will continue for the next two months.

When asked if the replacement is in the preparatory stages, Yun Ho-chin, councilor of the North Korean Embassy in Vienna, stated that the replacement work has progressed to the point that quite a few of its nuclear fuel rods have been replaced after being unsealed.

The North Korean councilor stressed that North Korea had emphasized the inevitability of the replacement to the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] and had requested that IAEA inspectors observe the replacement of nuclear fuel rods on several occasions.

Chinese See 'Room for Settlement'

SK1805064194 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean
18 May 94 p 6

[Report by Mun Il-hyon from Beijing]

[Text] China warned on 17 May that "North Korea would likely take extreme action [kuktanjok haengdong] if Western countries intend to isolate North Korea."

A Japanese Social Party delegate said that in a meeting with a delegation led by Kubo Wataru, secretary general of Japanese Social Party, Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Tang Jiaxuan said on 17 May that "it is possible for North Korea to take a very extreme method [kuktanjok pangbop]," and that "the Western countries should fully consider such a situation."

Regarding the replacement of fuel rods at a five-megawatt reactor, which has aroused strong protest from Western countries, including the United States, Vice Foreign Minister Tang said: "North Korea seems to show a hard-line attitude, but, actually, there is room for the settlement of the nuclear issue." Accordingly, he has strongly hinted that North Korea has not yet carried out the work of replacing fuel rods at its nuclear reactor.

The Japanese Social Party official said that Vice Foreign Minister Tang said China is now actively making efforts for the success of North Korean-U.S. talks.

This is the first time China has openly expressed that it has played a behind the scenes role in resolving the North Korean nuclear issue.

Also, the Japanese Social Party official said Vice Foreign Minister Tang expressed that while President Kim Il-sung was in China, he said to Chinese leaders on many

occasions that North Korea has no intention of developing nuclear weapons, nor does it have the funds or technology necessary, or the need to produce them.

Regarding this, a Chinese high-level source said that "considering the special relationship between China and North Korea, breaking the promise made between the leaders of the two countries would not be easy," and that "the Chinese leadership believes that President Kim Il-song will keep his promise." He has also clearly expressed that China adheres to a negative position on North Korea's nuclear development.

Inspection of Replaced Rods 'Later'

SK1805014294 Seoul YONHAP in English
0130 GMT 18 May 94

[Text] Washington, May 17 (YONHAP)—North Korea has informed the United States that it will allow the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to check the fuel rods taken out of its 5-megawatt nuclear reactor in Yongbyon later, an official at the North Korean mission to the United Nations said on Tuesday [17 May].

He said that although North Korea began to replace the fuel rods of the 5mw reactor in Yongbyon, it will seal the spent fuel and keep it under the IAEA's strict surveillance.

"We will then allow accurate measurement of the spent fuel when we and the United States comprehensively settle the nuclear problem in a package deal," he said.

The official reiterated the statement by a North Korean Foreign Ministry spokesman that Pyongyang had to begin replacing the fuel rods for reasons of technical safety. He also noted that the statement emphasized that the nuclear problem can still be solved through dialogue.

Thomas McLarty, chief of staff for U.S. President Bill Clinton, told a TV news program last weekend that Washington needs more information about North Korea's refueling and is waiting for reports from the IAEA team, which began its inspections on Tuesday.

The United States, however, may not have any alternative but to study ways at the U.N. Security Council to impose sanctions on North Korea if the IAEA inspection fails to come up with satisfactory results, diplomatic sources said.

DPRK Official Says Fuel Rods Not Yet Replaced

SK1805073494 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean
18 May 94 p 2

[“Reuter/YONHAP report from Vienna”]

[Text] On 17 May, one official at the North Korean Embassy in Vienna said that news reports that North Korea has already begun replacing fuel rods of the 5 megawatt nuclear reactor in Yongbyon are not true.

He said that news reports that used nuclear fuel rods have already been removed for installment of new ones are contrary to the truth.

But, he hinted that preparatory work to replace nuclear fuel rods at the Yongbyon nuclear reactor may have begun by now.

He added: "We do not know whether nuclear fuel rods are being replaced. But, it, if any, may be preparatory work. It takes two months to replace nuclear fuel rods."

In the meantime, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) said that a team to inspect North Korea's nuclear facilities went to Yongbyon via Pyongyang on 18 May.

The inspection team will conduct inspections of the nuclear reprocessing facilities—whose inspections were held in check by the North Korean side last March—and will examine the surveillance camera installed at the nearby nuclear reactor. The IAEA side pointed out that such an examination alone can find out whether fuel rods at the nuclear reactor have been replaced or not.

IAEA Refuses To Provide Inspections Details

AU1805183494 Paris AFP in English
1743 GMT 18 May 94

[Excerpts] Vienna, May 18 (AFP)—UN nuclear inspectors who traveled to North Korea to determine if spent reactor fuel was diverted for bomb-making have begun their work, the International Atomic Energy Agency said Wednesday [18 May].

A spokesman for the UN agency said the three inspectors had got down to their week-long assignment but he refused to provide details.

North Korea said over the weekend that it had already begun replacing spent fuel rods from a reactor at Yongbyon, 90 kilometers (54 miles) north of Pyongyang.

The inspectors are pressing to check the rods to see if fissile material has been diverted to make a nuclear weapon.

North Korea denies having a nuclear weapons program. [passage omitted]

The IAEA says the operation could take a few months.

Russian Ambassador on Nuclear Issue

SK1905074594 Seoul YONHAP in English
0649 GMT 19 May 94

[Text] Tokyo, May 19 (YONHAP)—Russian Ambassador to South Korea Georgiy Kunadze said Wednesday that North Korea, as a member of the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT), should fulfill all of its obligations under the treaty.

He told a symposium in Tokyo titled 'Peace and Stability in East Asia' that, even though North Korea has

been insisting that it be given a special position ever since it announced its intention to withdraw from the NPT, there are no other positions in the international convention than that of either a member or a non-member.

His remarks were seen as tantamount to urging Pyongyang to accept full-fledged inspections by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

"As a main member of the NPT, Russia will make the maximum effort in trying to see to it that nuclear weapons do not appear in Northeast Asia," he said.

But Kunadze struck a cautious note on the issue of sanctions against North Korea, saying that isolating the communist state might produce unwanted results.

Meanwhile, former Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama pointed out that international countermeasures against North Korea, assuming that it persists in rejecting nuclear inspections, depend on the stances of Russia and China.

Japan's diplomatic ability, he added, will be tested as a result because Tokyo may have to control remittances from pro-Pyongyang Koreans in Japan to North Korea.

Professor Izumi Hazime addressed factors which could trigger a crisis should the nuclear standoff continue to drag on.

He said the major factors are whether North Korea could endure extreme economic difficulties and whether the United States could tolerate the situation. He captured attention by saying that the world needs to prepare to use military power under the worst-case scenario.

An Pyong-chun, a professor at South Korea's Yonsei University, said that in order to settle the nuclear problem North Korea should remain in the NPT, accept special inspections and agree to mutual checks with South Korea.

"Although not desirable," he added, "we can think of economic sanctions by the U.N. Security Council on North Korea. If the sanctions are imposed, Japan's exertion of its economic influence including suspension of remittances to North Korea is essential."

No 'Disturbance' in DPRK Inspection

SK1905065194 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean
19 May 94 p 1

[By Choe Won-ki]

[Text] Hans Meyer, spokesman of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), said that the IAEA inspection team has begun inspecting Yongbyon nuclear facilities and that there has been no particular disturbance to speak of by North Korean authorities.

In a telephone interview with CHUNGANG ILBO on the early morning of 19 May, Spokesman Meyer said:

"The three-member inspection team is communicating normally with the IAEA headquarters in Vienna, Austria."

He said the inspection team, which arrived in Pyongyang on 17 May and moved on to Yongbyon by automobile, is regularly reporting to the IAEA headquarters every afternoon about its inspection activities.

Asked about whether North Korea had begun the replacement of fuel rods in the five-megawatt reactor in question, he said: "The IAEA's official position is that, until inspections are completed, we would not know which is the truth as Pyongyang asserted that it began the replacement of fuel rods while North Korean officials in Vienna are denying this."

He said no comment could be given on the scope and schedule of inspections "according to IAEA regulations."

DPRK Hints IAEA May Take Samples

OW1905054194 Tokyo Nikkei Telecom Database
in Japanese 19 May 94

[From Tokyo MAINICHI SHIMBUN 19 May Morning Edition: by correspondent Shiwhaiko Machida]

[Text] Vienna, 18 May—Commenting on the issue of replacing fuel rods at an experimental atomic reactor in Yongbyon, North Korea on 18 May, an official at the North Korean Embassy in Vienna said: "Inspectors from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) will be able to take samples of spent fuel when the fuel rods are replaced if U.S.-North Korea talks are resumed."

It is the first time that a North Korean official has definitely hinted at the possibility of IAEA inspectors taking samples of spent fuel at the experimental atomic reactor.

The North Korean official told a MAINICHI SHIMBUN reporter about the possibility on 18 May. So far, North Korea has refused to allow IAEA inspectors to take the samples of spent fuel to determine if North Korea has diverted uranium for military purposes. North Korea appears to have begun to soften its stand on the issue now that the United States has taken up the issue seriously.

Asked to comment on reports that "a substantially large number of fuel rods" have been replaced at the experimental atomic reactor, the North Korean diplomat said: "I do not know how many fuel rods have been replaced."

IAEA Confirms Fuel Rods Replacement

SK1905104794 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean
1000 GMT 19 May 94

[Text] The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is mapping out a countermeasure after receiving a report from the inspection team in North Korea, which began

its inspection activities on 18 May, confirming that North Korea has already begun replacing nuclear fuel rods.

Correspondent Cha Man-sun has this report from Vienna:

[Begin recording] Three inspectors conducted inspection activities in Yongbyon, North Korea, for the second day. Since yesterday, the inspection team has examined the counter and seals and whether the surveillance equipment installed at the 5-mw atomic reactor has been replaced. As a result, they have confirmed that the replacement of nuclear fuel rods has already begun.

The inspection team, in particular, has focussed on examining, with the guidance of North Korean officials concerned, whether it is possible to take samples from the used nuclear fuels from the reactor in the course of the nuclear fuel rods being replaced. As a result, they judged that the replacement of nuclear fuel rods is now at an initial stage. It is learned that they have reported this to headquarters.

Well-informed sources disclose that the inspection team has given its initial report saying that the replaced, used nuclear fuels are stored in such a way as to make it difficult to find out from which side of the reactor they have been taken out.

The well-informed sources say that the persons in high-level policy-making authority at the IAEA are receiving, and are making a detailed analysis of, daily reports from the inspection team in North Korea on its inspection activities and the status of the replacement of nuclear fuel rods. They are discussing, the sources say, whether to seek solutions through future negotiations with the North.

These sources predict that in view of the smooth progress of the consecutive two-day inspection activities, a scheduled, additional inspection of the radiochemical laboratory will also go smoothly. [end recording]

Kim Il-song Dares U.S. To Try Economic Sanctions

OW1905033094 Tokyo KYODO in English
0306 GMT 19 May 94

[Text] Tokyo, May 19 KYODO—North Korean President Kim Il-song says his country has been under U.S. sanctions since the end of the Korean War and wonders what further measures could be imposed on Pyongyang, the ASAHI SHIMBUN newspaper reported Thursday [19 May].

Kim further told a Korean-American journalist last month that China has no means to exercise influence over Pyongyang in any attempt to resolve concerns that North Korea may be developing an atomic bomb, according to the ASAHI report.

For more than a year, the United States has suggested imposing economic sanctions on Pyongyang if North Korea does not permit full inspections of its nuclear facilities to ensure that no radioactive material is diverted to a weapons program.

In an April 21 interview with U.S. ASIA NEWS reporter Moon Myong-cha, Kim again denied that North Korea is attempting to build a bomb and virtually dared the U.S. to impose sanctions on his economically beleaguered state.

Since the truce (ending the 1950-1953 Korean War), we have been under what are actually comprehensive economic sanctions by the economic sphere of the U.S. side, Kim said.

What further sanctions beyond those we have been subjected to can be imposed? I feel like saying once, go ahead and try, Kim reportedly said, accusing the U.S. of trying to drive North Korea into a corner over the nuclear issue.

Kim rejected the idea that China, North Korea's lone major ally, can play any role in resolving the nuclear stalemate, saying, we are not a vassal state of China.

The 82-year-old North Korean leader denied that his country was trying to build a bomb and insisted that they have no place to test an atomic bomb nor a target to use it against.

Despite Kim's insistence on the issue, Pyongyang has repeatedly refused to fully comply with demands by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), which monitors nuclear programs for the United Nations.

"If we show the IAEA everything they want to see, they will say they have doubts about other places that they want to see, and more places, and this attitude will continue," said Kim.

North Korea has rejected inspections of some facilities by saying they were military installations off limits to outside inspectors, but Kim said in the interview with Moon that inspections of the military sites must be carried out with checks of all military bases in North and South Korea.

Asked about North Korea's threat to turn Seoul into a "sea of flames," Kim said that Pyongyang's delegate to an inter-Korean meeting in March had told him the words had been uttered because the South Korean delegate "had gotten on his nerves."

Regarding the suspended talks for establishing diplomatic relations between Tokyo and Pyongyang, Kim said, "the door is always open no matter who the prime minister is."

Inspections Proceeding Without 'Any Problems'

SK2005002794 Seoul YONHAP in English
0010 GMT 20 May 94

[Text] Washington, May 19 (YONHAP)—International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) inspectors are continuing their activities at the North Korean nuclear complex in Yongbyon and nuclear fuel rods removed from the 5-megawatt reactor are being kept in the area, it was reported Thursday.

Press reports that North Korea was not attempting to separate the spent nuclear fuel rods and preserve them for later inspection have not been confirmed, sources said.

The information received from Yongbyon thus far is that the inspection team has not encountered any problems, they added.

The inspectors would surely have raised this issue had North Korea moved the fuel rods elsewhere or handled them in any other way, they said.

"It appears that the spent fuel rods removed from the reactor are being kept in the area for later preservation and checks," one source said.

Since they are only part of the roughly 8,000 rods, it is difficult to say what can be done about the situation, they said, indicating that follow-up measures by the United States and South Korea depend largely on the North's attitude.

Even though Pyongyang has removed some fuel rods from the reactor, the issue will not be referred to the UN Security Council if it cooperates with the IAEA inspectors, they added.

IAEA Rejects DPRK Proposal To Keep Fuel Rods 'Safe'

AU2005170494 Paris AFP in English
1642 GMT 20 May 94

[Text] Vienna, May 20 (AFP)—The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Friday [20 May] rejected a North Korean proposal to keep fuel rods from a controversial nuclear reactor in a "safe place under seal" ahead of resumed talks on the issue, an IAEA spokesman said.

"That won't work. We will no longer be able to verify with certainty if any of the nuclear material has been diverted," from the Yongbyon experimental reactor, he said.

The North Korean ambassador to China, Chu Chang-Jun, told a Beijing press conference Friday North Korea would keep "the fuel rods in a safe place, under seal in

order that the inspectors can verify that nuclear material has not been diverted to non-peaceful ends.

"When the next round of discussions takes place between North Korea and the United States and a technical solution is found, then the agency will be able to take its samples," the ambassador said.

The IAEA said late Thursday that North Korea has begun extracting fuel rods from its five-megawatt Yongbyon reactor in a "serious violation" of IAEA inspection terms and said it would inform the UN Security Council.

The removal of the rods, if not halted immediately, could wreck the IAEA's attempts to see if fuel had already been diverted, the IAEA said.

The agency called on North Korea to allow immediate inspections and to delay the extraction of fuel rods until arrangements were in place.

"No North Korea response to our demands has reached us," the IAEA said.

The three agency inspectors in North Korea are attempting to check whether any of the 8,000 nuclear fuel rods in the reactor have been diverted and used to nuclear weapons.

The IAEA said it would still be possible to carry out inspections and offered to send its top officials to discuss how it could be done.

DPRK Says IAEA Showed Fuel Rods

SK2005144794 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean
1400 GMT 20 May 94

[Report by Beijing-based correspondent Yi Tong-sik]

[Text] Chu Chang-chun, North Korean ambassador to China, in a news conference today, said that North Korea showed the nuclear fuel rods being replaced at the nuclear reactor in Yongbyon to the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] inspection team.

In a news conference for foreign reporters held at the North Korean Embassy in Beijing this afternoon, Ambassador Chu stressed that although North Korea showed the IAEA inspectors the nuclear fuel rods, North Korea does not have the obligation to permit any inspection, thus hinting that an actual nuclear inspection was not made.

Ambassador Chu also said that if a package solution is agreed upon on the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula at the third round of talks between North Korea and the United States, the IAEA could supervise [kamsi] the replacement of the fuel rods at any time, thus making it clear that North Korea will link the nuclear inspection with its third round of talks with the United States.

DPRK Says Fuel Rods Removed for 'Safety Reasons'

*HK2005114594 Hong Kong AFP in English
1128 GMT 20 May 94*

[Text] Beijing, May 20 (AFP)—North Korea was obliged to begin extracting fuel rods from its Yongbyon reactor for safety reasons and because of Washington's refusal to resume talks on the nuclear issue, the North Korean ambassador to China said Friday.

The United States had failed to honour pledges to provide North Korea with a light water reactor and to hold a third round of talks with Pyongyang following their last meeting in Geneva in July, Ambassador Chu Chang-Jun said. As a result "replacement of the fuel rods could not be delayed any longer because of safety considerations," Chu told a press conference.

Chu stressed that Pyongyang had, on four occasions, informed the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in advance of its intention to replace the rods. It was therefore unfair for the agency to criticise North Korea for going ahead, he said.

The IAEA said Thursday that its inspectors currently in North Korea had confirmed that replacement had begun in "serious violation" of IAEA inspection terms, and said it would report the action to the UN Security Council.

The agency called on North Korea to stop immediately any further withdrawal of the rods, saying that as of Thursday it would still be possible to implement required safety measures so as to verify whether any fuel has been diverted. However, Chu indicated that such verification would be dependent on a resumption of talks between Washington and Pyongyang.

"We will keep the fuel rods in a safe place and seal them for the inspectors so they can verify that nuclear materials have not been diverted for non-peaceful purposes," he said.

"When the next round of talks between North Korea and the United States is held and a technical solution is realised, then the agency can take measurements at any time."

Washington suspects the reactor, 90 kilometers (54 miles) north of Pyongyang, is a nuclear bomb factory, and wants the IAEA to check whether North Korea has been diverting weapons-grade plutonium to manufacture a device.

In a further indication that Pyongyang had no intention of immediately halting the replacement procedure, Chu said the process "is under way and will last about two months."

Fuel Rods Removal 'Serious Violation'

*AU2005063494 Paris AFP in English
0603 GMT 20 May 94*

[Text] Vienna, May 20 (AFP)—North Korea has begun extracting fuel rods from its Yongbyon reactor in a "serious violation" of International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) inspection terms that will be reported to the UN Security Council, the IAEA said late Thursday.

The removal of the rods, if not halted immediately, could wreck the IAEA's attempts to see if fuel had already been taken from the reactor, the IAEA said in a strong statement.

Washington wants the IAEA to check whether North Korea has been hiving off weapons-grade plutonium to make a nuclear bomb.

But the IAEA said: "As of today, it still seems possible to implement the required safety measures."

But it warned: "Should (North Korea) continue the discharge operation without these measures, it would result in irreparable loss of the Agency's ability to verify whether all nuclear material subject to safeguards in (North Korea) is in fact under safeguards and that no such material has been diverted."

The IAEA said it had sent a telex to North Korea on Thursday to complain that the discharge of fuel rods "constitutes a serious violation of the safeguards agreement" for monitoring nuclear facilities.

The statement said IAEA inspectors on site had "confirmed that core discharge has indeed started."

"The Agency has concluded that further discharge of fuel rods would jeopardise the possibility of the Agency applying safeguards measures necessary to verify whether any fuel has been diverted in the past."

The statement said the IAEA would report the violation to the United Nations Security Council.

"The Agency has asked (North Korea) to make arrangements promptly for the requisite safeguards measures and has urged that until these are in place, further discharge be deferred."

It said it wanted to send an IAEA team to the site immediately to discuss implementing the checks.

In Washington, President Bill Clinton said this week: "I think it would be an error for North Korea to continue to thwart these inspections after they have agreed to comply with them."

U.S. Defense Secretary, William Perry, said Wednesday that the United States faced "a very substantial near-term crisis" with North Korea.

The fuel rods in the reactor contains enough plutonium for four or five nuclear bombs, the Pentagon said.

North Korea has denied that it has a nuclear weapons program but has balked at international inspections.

The Central Intelligence Agency has estimated that North Korea withdrew enough plutonium in the late 1980s to make at least one nuclear device and that there is a more than 50 percent chance it actually did so.

North Korea's continued refusal to abide by the IAEA's non-proliferation rules has led to international threats of UN sanctions, which in turn prompted war threats from Pyongyang.

North Korean President Kim Il-Sung, in his latest warning, said that North Korea would not bow to international pressure over its nuclear ambitions, saying that "pressure can never be a solution to the problem," according to the Korean Central News Agency (KCNA).

"If the United States continues to clamour to put pressure on our republic, we will be compelled to take due measures of self-defence to safeguard the dignity of our nation and the sovereignty of our country," added the leader of the Stalinist state.

DPRK Daily Justifies Replacement of Fuel Rods

SK2105101494 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 0810 GMT 21 May 94

[NODONG SINMUN 21 May commentary: "No One Can Challenge Our Work To Replace the Fuel Rods"]

[Text] Recently, the United States and its following forces are once again strengthening the antirepublic oppressive commotion by finding fault with the issue of replacing the fuel rods at our five-megawatt experimental nuclear power plant [sihom wonjaryok paljonso].

They are trying to drive the situation to an extreme circumstance [kuktanui sanghwang] by saying that the nuclear issue has entered a grave stage, that the replacement of our fuel rods is a grave violation of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT] and the safeguards accord, that our issue must be brought to the UN Security Council and sanctions implemented, and so on because we started to replace the fuel rods. This is a violent distortion of the facts, and tells us that the United States and its following forces are persistently maneuvering to crush [apsal] our Republic.

The issue of replacing the fuel rods at our five-megawatt experimental nuclear power plant, is a natural consequence resulting from the rupture of the DPRK-U.S. talks by the United States.

In reality, up until now the United States had used the DPRK-U.S. talks as a lever to realize its selfish goal by strengthening its pressure on us. The United States created a nuclear crisis and increased pressure on us inside and outside the talks. Also, under the cloak of modernizing the U.S. forces stationed in South Korea, it shoved in numerous military equipment into South

Korea, including the Patriot missiles and Apache helicopters, for offensive use and obtained enormous economic interests, and strengthened its military presence in South Korea, which is a strategic point of Asia. On the other hand, we are receiving a grave military threat from the United States.

The third round of the DPRK-U.S. talks was disrupted. The DPRK-U.S. agreement on changing the graphite-moderated reactor system to light-water moderated reactor system have a long way to go due to the betrayal act of the United States. Under this circumstance, we could no longer indefinitely freeze the operation of the graphite-moderated reactor system even by suffering an enormous economic loss. Therefore, it was inevitable for us to move toward the road of normalizing our peaceful nuclear activities

No one can pick a quarrel with the issue of replacing the fuel rods at our five-megawatt experimental nuclear power plant, even from the technology safety point of view.

The fuel rods in the five-megawatt experimental nuclear power plant were (?placed) in 1986. Since, we have delayed the replacement of the fuel rods until now to provide a favorable environment for the DPRK-U.S. talks. Today, a considerable number of fuel rods have been damaged. In particular, due to the damage of the ventilator, a situation was created in which we had to stop the operation of the experimental atomic reactor [sihom wonjaro].

As a result, a serious safety issue was put forth in the operation of the experimental atomic reactor, and thus it became inevitable to take out the fuel rods immediately.

Out of such urgency, we sent as many as five telex messages to the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] regarding the replacement of fuel rods. In the telex messages, we called on the IAEA to take necessary measures regarding this—such as being present at the scene to seal and dismantle [haechae] them—while informing in advance our plan on replacing the fuel rods.

In addition, we explicitly clarified that in the event the IAEA Secretariat did not take appropriate measures at the right time, we would be compelled to recognize this as an action that the IAEA has empowered us with the authority to break the seals at appropriate (?spots) [kuro-myonsu kigusogigugi haedanghan taechaegul chaettae chwihaji annungyongu haedang (?kaesoaeo) ponginul ttel kwonhanul uriege puyohangosuro injonghalsubkke optanungosul myongbaekhahiyotta]. What is more, we agreed to all the IAEA's demands on the witnessing activities, except selective measurement of fuel rods because it is against our unique stance, and immediately issued visas upon request. However, the IAEA Secretariat unreasonably came out with demands tantamount to irregular inspections [pijonggi sacharae manmognun yogurul murihagae tulgonawatsumyo] by babbling about selective preservation of fuel rods and, thus, rejected the

witnessing, openly ignoring our unique status following the temporary suspension of the effectuation of the withdrawal from the NPT.

Under such circumstance, we, as means of last concession, sent an emergency letter to the U.S. side writing that if our unique stance was settled [haesodoemyon] now by bringing the package deal between the DPRK and the United States to a success, we could allow all regular and irregular [chonggimtijonggi] inspections—including selective preservation of some fuel—even during the course of replacing the fuel rods. Nonetheless, the United States also rejected this proposal and did not respond to the talks with the DPRK.

Under such conditions, we could no longer delay the changing of fuel rods due to technical safety reasons [kisul anjongsang iyuro]. In view of this, the beginning of our work on replacing fuel rods without the presence of the IAEA Secretariat's inspectors was an unavoidable step entirely stemmed from the IAEA's unreasonable acts. Such being the case, there is no grounds for the United States and the IAEA Secretariat to say so and so about our replacement of fuel rods.

Before picking on us, the IAEA Secretariat should reflect on its acts in avoiding its obligation to guarantee the normal nuclear activities of a member nation. It is an unbreakable mission of the IAEA to go to the spot for confirmation and to take necessary measures when an abnormal situation crops up in a member nation.

Although we requested the agency to immediately take appropriate measures, including a quick removal of the seals under unavoidable circumstances, the IAEA Secretariat avoided to be present in the replacement of the fuel rods for the reason that we refused to meet their unilateral demand of being allowed to choose and keep some of the replaced fuel rods. And it is now raising quite a row, informing the member nations of the agency's Board of Governors and the UN Security Council that we unsealed the facilities and violated the NPT. This is obviously a mean, conscienceless act unbefitting to an international organization.

The U.S. action is also the same. If the United States had responded to the DPRK-U.S. talks and brought a package deal to a success as demanded by us, such complicated problems existing now would have not even been raised from the beginning.

Nevertheless, the United States avoided the third round of the DPRK-U.S. talks, ignoring problems put forth by us and continuously persisting in unreasonable preconditions. Therefore, for the United States to make an issue of the replacement of our fuel rods now is the same as a thief turning on the master with a club.

In particular, some officials in the United States are currently stirring up the public opinion as if we were replacing the fuel rods to extract plutonium to produce four to five nuclear bombs. This is truly preposterous.

Unavoidably, we started the replacement of the fuel rods without the presence of the IAEA, but we are working our best to verify that the nuclear materials are not being diverted for other non-peaceful purposes in the process of replacing the fuel rods because of the consistent will to prove the innocence of the peaceful nuclear activities.

The IAEA can never be allowed to choose and keep the fuel rods before our special status is brought to an end. However, this does not mean that the continuity of the safeguards would be broken. The work of replacing our fuel rods is now going on under the strict observation of the inspection cameras installed by the IAEA and as soon as the fuel rods are taken out, they are kept under the restriction and surveillance of the IAEA.

We are carrying out the work on replacing fuel rods in such a manner as to fully preserve the possibilities of measuring all the replaced fuel rods when the nuclear issue is resolved in a package deal and the partiality of the agency removed [urinun appro haengmunjeui ilgwaltagyoli silhyondoego kigoui pulgongjongsongi haesodoenun sichomegaso kyochedoen modunyollyobongduladaehan chukchong kanungsongul chungbunuhui pojohanhanun panghyangeso nosimyollyojagobul chinhaenghagoitta]. This matter can be solved through negotiations between the DPRK and the IAEA.

Nonetheless, some forces inside the United States are trying to forcibly [okchiro] link our fuel rod replacement work with nuclear development. This can only be seen as a childish plot [yuchihan sulchaek] designed to find a justification to impose sanctions on us by deliberately aggravating the situation. At present, the attempt to justify its unreasonable argument with any wild guess or assumption can never get through. The nuclear issue should also seek a fair solution on the basis of the reality, squarely seeing the reality.

The United States and the IAEA Secretariat must no longer make mistakes in the solution to the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula but take a proper position for honestly solving the issue.

More on Daily Justifying Replacement of Fuel Rods

SK2105105494 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1025 GMT 21 May 94

[“Nobody Is Allowed To Slander DPRK’s Replacement of Fuel Rods”—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, May 21 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today carries a commentary denouncing the United States and the forces following it for rendering the situation extremely strained, threatening “sanctions” as regards the replacement of fuel rods at the five megawatt experimental nuclear power station of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea.

The author of the commentary says: The refueling is an inevitable consequence of the breakup of the DPRK-U.S. talks by the United States and nobody can decry it in view of technical safety.

Our starting of the replacement of fuel rods in the absence of inspectors of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] is entirely an inevitable result of the unreasonable acts of the United States and the IAEA Secretariat.

Declaring that the United States and the Secretariat of the agency have no justification to decry our refueling, the analyst further says:

The Secretariat of the agency, before slandering us, must reflect on its acts in avoiding its obligation to guarantee the normal nuclear activities of the member nation. It is an unavoidable duty of the agency to come to the spot, verify things and take necessary measures when an abnormal situation is created in the nuclear activities of a member nation.

Though we requested the agency to immediately take appropriate measures including a quick removal of the seal under unavoidable circumstances, the Secretariat of the agency avoided presence in the replacement of fuel rods for the reason that we refused to meet their unilateral demand for being allowed to choose and keep some of the replaced fuel rods. And it is now raising quite a row, informing the member nations of the Board of Governors of the agency and the United Nations Security Council that we unsealed the facilities and violated the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. This is obviously a mean, conscienceless act unbecoming to an international organization.

The U.S. act is none the better. If the United States had responded to the talks with the DPRK and brought a package deal to a success as demanded by the DPRK, such complicated problems would have not been raised. But the United States avoided the third round of the DPRK-U.S. talks, ignoring our proposals and persisting in unreasonable preconditions. And now it is making a case of our replacement of fuel rods. This reminds us of a thief turning on the master with a club.

Some quarters of the United States are now spreading the rumor that we are replacing fuel rods to extract plutonium enough for the manufacture of four or five nuclear bombs. It is ridiculous, indeed.

Though we have started the replacement of fuel rods without the presence of the agency under unavoidable circumstances, this work is now going on under the strict observation of the inspection cameras installed by the agency and as soon as fuel rods are taken out, they are kept under the containment and surveillance devices of the agency. We are replacing fuel rods in such a manner as to fully preserve the possibilities of measuring all the replaced fuel rods when the nuclear issue is resolved in a

package deal and the partiality of the agency removed. This matter can be solved through negotiations between the DPRK and the IAEA.

Nevertheless, some forces of the United States are now linking the refueling in a far-fetched way with "nuclear arms development." This is a despicable trick to find a pretext for "sanctions" against the DPRK by intentionally rendering the situation strained.

An attempt to justify one's unreasonable logic with speculation and supposition does not work now. The nuclear issue, too, requires a fair solution based on a proper judgement of the reality.

The United States and the Secretariat of the agency must no longer make mistakes in the solution to the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula but take a proper position for honestly solving the issue.

DPRK Agrees to IAEA Visit on Fuel Rods Removal

AU2105133094 Paris AFP in English
1309 GMT 21 May 94

[Text] Vienna, May 21 (AFP)—North Korea has agreed to the visit of a new high-level mission of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to discuss the removal of fuel rods from its Yongbyon nuclear complex, the IAEA announced Saturday.

The mission will leave Vienna Sunday [22 May] and arrive in North Korea Tuesday.

"It will clarify inspection measures necessary in relation with the discharging of the reactor," an IAEA statement said.

Fuel Rods Change Said To Be 10-15 Percent Complete

SK2305095894 Seoul YONHAP in English
0945 GMT 23 May 94

[Text] Seoul, May 23 (YONHAP)—Deputy Prime Minister Yi Hong-ku said on Monday the exchange of fuel rods at a five-megawatt atomic reactor at Yongbyon, North Korea is believed to have been 10 to 15 percent complete so far. Yi's remarks mean that of the total 8,100 fuel rods at the reactor, about 1,000 have been replaced.

Speaking at a National Assembly Foreign Affairs and Unification Committee meeting, Yi said the initial report from an IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency) inspection team indicated that there is no significant problem with respect to the storage and future gauging of selected fuel bars from the reactor. "The IAEA will have full-fledged negotiations with North Korea over this matter beginning Tuesday," Yi said.

Earlier in the day at a breakfast meeting hosted by the Korean Newspaper Editors Association, Yi said his recent remarks that "the South-North denuclearization declaration will be made void and null if North Korea

were found to have even a half nuclear weapon" was the expression of his view directed indirectly toward the United States.

Yi made the remarks when asked by Democratic Party Rep. Namkung Chin what was his view of a recent statement of U.S. Secretary of Defense William Perry, in which Perry spoke as if his country would connive at one or two nuclear weapons in the possession of North Korea.

Negotiations on Fuel Rods Replacement Viewed

SK2405142994 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean
1402 GMT 24 May 94

[By Cha Man-sun from Vienna]

[Text] The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) team for negotiations with North Korea that arrived in Pyongyang this afternoon will work for the replacement of nuclear fuel rods, along with the three inspectors who have checked the replacement of nuclear fuel rods in North Korea for the past week.

IAEA spokesman Hans Meyer said that the IAEA negotiating team arrived in Pyongyang this afternoon and will begin full-pledged negotiations with North Korean officials tomorrow.

In particular, it is expected that, in the forthcoming negotiations with North Korea, the IAEA will demand [chokku] a random choice [imui sondaek] of replaced nuclear fuel rods and separate preservation [pyopto pogwan] of them in special containers, and North Korea will repeatedly insist on its previous position that it will allow this after the nuclear issue is resolved in a package deal through negotiations with the United States.

Japan, U.S., ROK Hold Talks, Agree on DPRK Policy

OW2505030394 Tokyo KYODO in English
0223 GMT 25 May 94

[Text] New York, May 24 KYODO—Japan and South Korea on Tuesday [24 May] agreed with U.S. plans to go ahead with a third round of high-level talks with North Korea in Geneva in early June.

The United States is seeking to encourage North Korea to be more transparent with its nuclear activities, including allowing full inspections of its nuclear facilities by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Robert Gallucci discussed the North Korean nuclear question with South Korea's special envoy for nuclear issues Kim Sam-hun on Monday and the two met Tuesday with Yukio Takeuchi, deputy director general of the Japanese Foreign Ministry's Asian Affairs Bureau.

Washington has approved of North Korea's readiness to go along with IAEA inspections of its nuclear facilities

and decided to resume high-level talks with Pyongyang, suspended last July, in an effort to reach a political resolution to the stalemate.

In Washington, U.S. Government sources said an announcement on the scheduling of the talks will be made in the near future.

Tuesday's meeting in New York reportedly went smoothly as the three parties agreed on their position in dealing with North Korea in the future, the sources said.

The sources stressed that the high-level talks could be forfeited and the issue referred to the U.N. Security Council if North Korea continues with the refueling of its experimental nuclear reactor in the Yongbyon complex north of Pyongyang without an agreement with the IAEA on inspecting the spent fuel rods.

Laboratory Inspection Completed

AU2505120094 Paris AFP in English
1141 GMT 24 May 94

[Text] Vienna, May 25 (AFP)—Inspectors from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) have completed their inspection of a controversial experimental laboratory in North Korea and took samples from spent fuel rods, IAEA officials said in Vienna Wednesday.

The samples should allow the IAEA to determine how long the fuel rods were in the reactor and thereby calculate whether plutonium could have been diverted, possibly for use in making nuclear bombs.

PRC Reportedly Sent Official 'To Persuade' DPRK

SK2605012694 Seoul YONHAP in English
0048 GMT 26 May 94

[Text] Beijing, May 26 (YONHAP)—A high-level Chinese Foreign Ministry official visited Pyongyang last week and advised North Korea to compromise and negotiate a peaceful solution to the nuclear problem, a South Korean Embassy source here said Wednesday.

"A high-level official in charge of Asian Affairs at the Chinese Foreign Ministry came back after visiting North Korea last week," the source said, suggesting that Beijing is involved in last-minute efforts to persuade Pyongyang.

Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Tang Jiaxuan told visiting South Korean Lawmaker Mun Chong-su, secretary-general of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party (DLP), Wednesday that his country is urging North Korea to settle the nuclear row through dialogue and that Pyongyang responded positively.

Tang said this information had been delivered to South Korea and the United States, according to DLP Spokesman Son Hak-kyu.

The Chinese Government welcomes South Korea's flexibility in trying to resolve the nuclear dispute, such as

withdrawing its demand for an inter-Korean envoy exchange, Tang was quoted as saying.

On the delayed conclusion of a South Korean-Chinese aviation agreement, Tang said the two countries had agreed on overall principles and commercial airline companies must now determine the business terms of the pact.

He said he hopes to see the agreement signed soon.

The vice foreign minister said the two countries will sign an agreement on forming a South Korea-China Industrial Committee sometime this month. South Korean Ambassador to Beijing Hwang Pyong-tae will sign the accord along with Wang Zhongyu, minister of the State Economic and Trade Commission.

The committee, agreed when South Korean President Kim Yong-sam visited Beijing in March, is expected to convene its first meeting in Seoul.

IAEA Inspections Completed, No Samples Taken

SK2605005294 Seoul YONHAP in English
0023 GMT 26 May 94

[Text] Berlin, May 25 (YONHAP)—The International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] denied reports Wednesday that IAEA inspectors had taken samples from North Korea's controversial five-megawatt reactor at Yongbyon.

IAEA Spokesman Hans Meyer said the inspectors had completed checking a key radiochemical laboratory, but failed to take samples from spent fuel rods at the five-megawatt reactor.

He said the UN experts had finished additional inspections of the laboratory last weekend, completing the task of collecting samples from the lab that was begun in March.

Meanwhile, an IAEA negotiating team began talks with North Korean officials to discuss technical issues related to witnessing the fuel rod replacement.

The negotiations are to resume Thursday, but it is uncertain when and how they will end, Meyer added.

The two-man negotiating team headed by Demitri Pericos, IAEA safeguards department director, that arrived in Pyongyang Tuesday met with the North Koreans Wednesday, meyer said.

Of the three inspectors who came to North Korea last weekend, two were taking part in the negotiations while the third left the country for Vienna to report the inspection results to the IAEA.

Russian Says DPRK'S Nuclear Program Cannot Be Checked

LD2605095894 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
0926 GMT 26 May 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vyacheslav Bantin]

[Text] Hiroshima May 26 TASS—"Even the most thorough international inspection of North Korean atomic facilities, carried out by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), will [not] be able to decide for sure whether North Korea is developing nuclear weapons or not," a Russian armaments expert, who wanted to remain anonymous, told ITAR-TASS. The expert is now attending the U.N. disarmament conference in Hiroshima.

He explained his point of view by the specifics of the nuclear technology used by North Korea. Even if IAEA inspectors get access to the nuclear wastes and to the rods of the reactors supposedly used for the development of atomic weapons, even if they get a chance to analyse these materials, they will not be able to decide for sure whether Pyongyang is developing a nuclear bomb or not," the expert stated. In his opinion, this explains North Korea's stand on the inspection of its nuclear facilities. "If North Korea allows the IAEA to carry out a thorough inspection," he said, "this will only increase suspicions that Pyongyang is hiding something from the international community, because IAEA experts will not be able to arrive at any definite conclusion."

The Russian expert believes that suspicions about North Korea's efforts to develop nuclear weapons could be fully dispelled or, on the contrary, confirmed only if a representative international team of experts would carry out a lasting and broad examination of North Korean nuclear facilities, tantamount to permanent control over them, which should continue for several months. "The several days, during which a IAEA inspection will last, cannot resolve the problem of North Korea's nuclear programme," he noted.

Stressing that this was merely his personal opinion, the expert said that he doubted very much the existence of nuclear weapons in North Korea today. "This is why it is necessary to continue the efforts to solve this problem through a dialogue with Pyongyang, and not by means of punitive sanctions against the Korean People's Democratic Republic," he stated.

IAEA Talks With North Korea Continue

AU2605115894 Paris AFP in English
1113 GMT 26 May 94

[Text] Vienna, May 26 (AFP)—Talks between nuclear inspectors and North Korea on the monitoring of fuel rods and regular inspections of the Yongbyon nuclear reactor resumed here Thursday, a spokesman for the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) said.

He said the talks, which began Wednesday, were expected to continue through Friday.

The North Korean Government has so far refused to allow IAEA inspectors to monitor the refueling of its five-megawatt reactor at Yongbyon, the country's only nuclear power plant located 90 kilometres (55 miles) north of the capital Pyongyang.

IAEA inspectors on Wednesday completed maintenance work on surveillance equipment installed at the plant and were allowed to take samples from a nuclear reprocessing plant, also at Yongbyon.

The samples should allow the agency to determine whether plutonium could have been manufactured or diverted, possibly for use in making nuclear bombs.

The inspectors, however, arrived after North Korea had begun refueling its Yongbyon reactor and some of the 8,000 fuel rods had already been removed.

The IAEA charged that by starting the refueling before the arrival of the inspectors, North Korea was in violation of IAEA inspection terms and that the agency would inform the UN Security Council for possible punitive sanctions.

The agency added, however, that it was still possible to take samples from the spent fuel rods to determine whether plutonium was diverted for military purposes.

Virtual Failure of DPRK-IAEA Negotiations Conceded

*SK2805031394 Seoul YONHAP in English
0302 GMT 28 May 94*

[By Yi Tong-min]

[Text] Seoul, May 28 (YONHAP)—The North Korean nuclear dispute became a life-or-death situation Saturday with Seoul officials conceding the virtual failure of Pyongyang-International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) negotiations.

IAEA Director-general Hans Blix reported to the U.N. Security Council that North Korea could finish unloading nuclear fuel rods within days and thus destroy the chances of measuring what went on at the five-megawatt reactor during the past eight years of operation.

The IAEA, the United States and South Korea have made clear that if such measurement was not guaranteed, they would seek countermeasures through the U.N. Security Council. The Security Council already held informal consultation Friday evening and will meet again early next week to discuss the situation based on Blix's report.

Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu chaired a hastily called meeting of vice and assistant ministers and his nuclear negotiating team to discuss the latest report from Vienna. Officials said the IAEA is likely to issue a final statement sometime in the morning from Vienna. If the agency judges that the chances of future measurement are ruined, it is certain to request action by the Security Council.

The officials were clinging to the little hope that remained, saying two of the five IAEA inspectors currently in Pyongyang will stay behind and monitor the progress in the discharge of fuel rods from North Korea's five-megawatt reactor.

These inspectors could restart negotiations with North Korea on halting the unloading process so that the IAEA can select and store the critical rods for future measurement. Measurement is considered a must in determining how much plutonium North Korea has stockpiled. "But it's definitely closer to a failure," said one ministry official on condition of anonymity. "As to whether the remaining inspectors can succeed in negotiations, we can't be sure."

North Korea began discharging the 800 bundles of fuel rods, each bundle containing 10 rods, from May 12, according to Blix. Pyongyang has done 50 percent of the unloading and will be able to complete the job within days.

Washington, in working-level contacts with Pyongyang over the past few days, has insisted that North Korea at least stop the discharge. This would ensure that there was still a chance of taking the necessary measurements. But North Korea has refused to halt the work, demanding instead that the United States sit down for the next round of high-level negotiations to discuss how measurement can be guaranteed, apparently a tactic to continue using the five-megawatt reactor as a bargaining chip.

"North Korea never said it would not allow measurement. But it's becoming obvious that Pyongyang is doing its best to keep its past nuclear activities a secret, away from any analysis or probe," said one analyst at the Foreign Ministry.

In truth, full access to the fuel rods and their measurement would disclose the majority of North Korea's nuclear development program, and giving it away would dramatically weaken Pyongyang's nuclear card.

Foreign Minister Han had repeated that guaranteeing measurement is "the line" that decides whether diplomatic efforts continue or end. North Korea is close to crossing that line and officials say that by next week, new circumstances may arise that demand a confrontation with Pyongyang.

Indo-Russian Official Nuclear Science Cooperation To Continue

BK0606045194 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 6 Jun 94

[Text] The deputy prime minister of Russia, Mr. Yuri Yarov, says Indo-Russian cooperation in nuclear science will continue, particularly in the exchange of technology and scientists. He was speaking in Bombay yesterday after visiting the Bhaba Atomic Research Center. Mr. Yarov lauded India's nuclear science development. The Russian deputy prime minister also visited the Mazagaon dock. Mr. Yarov called for joint ventures between India and Russia in the ship building area.

Russia To Sell Brazil Air Defense Missiles, Launchers

LD0406100594 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0530 GMT 4 Jun 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Andrey Kurguzov]

[Text] Brasilia, 4 Jun—Russia is to sell Brazil air defense missiles and launchers. Agreement on this was reached here during talks which ended on Friday between the leadership of the Ministry of the Army of this major Latin American country and representatives of the Rosvozruchiye [Russian armaments] association.

In an interview with an ITAR-TASS correspondent, Col (?Cupertino), a spokesman of the Army Ministry, stated Russia will sell Brazil 112 Igla missiles used against helicopters and other low-flying targets and 56 missile launchers. To purchase this combat equipment Brazil's military chiefs have used part of the 100 million dollars allocated by the government for the modernization of the army. An ITAR-TASS correspondent received confirmation from a spokesman of the Russian Embassy in Brasilia that the deal had been concluded.

Col. Cupertino stressed the deal was concluded as a result of the talks that were held in Moscow last September by Zenildo de Lucena, minister of the army, and the inter-governmental protocol of intent on trade and economic cooperation that was signed last December during the visit to Russia by Jose Andrade Vieira, then minister of industry, commerce and tourism. The protocol envisages, among other things, increasing the volume of Russian-Brazilian trade to four billion dollars in the next four years. The ministry spokesman said it was possible that other agreements in the military sphere would be reached in future and Brazil was interested in pursuing this. In connection with this, Gen. Gilberto Serra, head of the center for social relations of the Ministry of the Army, in an interview for the GLOBO newspaper said "Brazil is interested in buying from Russia as large a volume of armaments as possible at the least cost." At the present time Brazil is studying the possibility of organizing production of Igla type missiles in the country, he stressed.

IAEA Says No Plutonium Missing from Japanese Nuclear Plant

AU2605084194 Paris AFP in English 0013 GMT 26 May 94

[Text] Vienna, May 26 (AFP)—The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) confirmed Wednesday that no plutonium was missing from a Japanese factory processing nuclear fuel.

Some 70 kilograms (154 pounds) of plutonium, enough to make nine nuclear bombs, had in fact accumulated as "hold-up" in dust form on exposed surfaces of processing areas, the IAEA said in a statement.

"The IAEA has been well aware of the presence of this material throughout, which has been fully declared as hold-up by the operator and is measured by the IAEA on a monthly basis, using a specially-designed system," the statement said.

In other respects, the Tokai-mura plant northeast of Tokyo was a highly-automated facility with the most advanced nuclear material accountancy system in existence, providing information to the IAEA on the movement and quantities of such material on a near real-time basis, the nuclear watchdog said.

The plant operators had decided to leave the deposited hold-up where it was since the plant opened in October 1988 to minimise radiation exposure to personnel, the IAEA said.

However with a view to improving the quality of the measurements the IAEA had urged the necessity of collecting the hold-up material and a schedule for this was currently being worked out with the Japanese authorities, the statement added.

The Washington-based Nuclear Control Institute, a non-governmental organisation, said on May 9 that the plant should be closed until the problem is solved.

NCI president Paul Leventhal said there was no proof that Japan was diverting plutonium for a weapons program. But he asked the IAEA to closely monitor the Japanese facility.

A plant spokesman rebutted the demand for the shutdown on May 11, saying, "There is nothing unclear about what are strictly residuals in the production process. We have made efforts to reduce them and we will."

Leventhal said the NCI had sent a letter to U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher urging him to take the matter up with Japan as most of the plutonium being used at the plant came from the United States.

According to press reports, the IAEA was concerned because the instrument monitoring the amount of plutonium in the production process had a margin of error between 10 and 15 percent.

It means that for every 70 kilograms of plutonium counted, some eight kilograms, enough for a nuclear bomb, could have escaped detection.

**ROK, PRC Sign Atomic Technology Agreement
25 May**

*SK2605021894 Seoul SEOUL SINMUN in Korean
26 May 94 p 3*

[By correspondent Choe Tu-sam from Beijing]

[Text] The ROK and China decided to carry out multi-lateral cooperation in the electric power industrial field including the development of atomic power generations. To achieve this, Yi Chong-hun, president of the Korea Electric Power Corporation, and Jiang Xinxiang, president of the China National Nuclear Corporation, met at the Diaoyutai State Guest House in Beijing on the afternoon of 25 May and signed the technology cooperation agreement under the content of mutual exchange and cooperation in building and operating atomic power generations and in the technology and research field.

Also on this day, President Yi concluded a technology cooperation agreement with Jiao Yian, general manager of the Huabei Electricity Group, on the overall electric power work including the building and operation of hydroelectric and thermoelectric power stations. On 26 May, he will conclude a similar agreement in Shenyang with the Dongbei Electric Power Group. On 28 May, he plans to sign a letter of intent for promoting the combined-cycle thermal power generation project with Pak Tong-kyu, mayor of Yanji.

**Brazil Talks Start With Russia To Intensify
Bilateral Relations**

*PY2805010794 Brasilia Voz do Brasil Network
in Portuguese 2200 GMT 27 May 94*

[Report by Luiz Augusto Mendonca]

[Text] Brazil and Russia have begun talks seeking to intensify bilateral trade relations.

During his meeting with President Itamar Franco at Planalto Palace today, Russian Congress President Vladimir Shumeyko defended the need to intensify cooperation and trade between the two countries, particularly with regard to the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes.

According to reports by the press adviser for the Russian delegation currently visiting Brazil, (Yuriy Alkanov), President Franco's meeting with Shumeyko is not a simple courtesy visit but the beginning of a new stage in the two countries' trade relations. He pointed out that

Shumeyko was authorized by President Boris Yeltsin to discuss state matters with the Brazilian president.

**Claes Says Continued N-Energy Production in
Ukraine 'Unwise'**

*BR1705124494 Brussels BELGA Database in French
1629 GMT 16 May 94—FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY*

[Article signed LVE/GGD: "EU-Ukraine Partnership
Agreement: Probable Signing at Corfu Summit"]

[Text] Brussels, 16 May (BELGA)—The European Union (EU) and Ukraine should be signing a partnership agreement in June, probably at the European summit on the Greek island of Corfu, and Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk could be invited to attend this twice yearly meeting of European heads of state and government for this purpose, Belgian Foreign Minister Willy Claes indicated on Monday.

The agreement, as signed by the two parties in Brussels in March, has been held over pending ratification by the Ukrainian Parliament of the NPT [Nonproliferation Treaty].

At a meeting of EU foreign ministers, the Belgian foreign minister recommended that the EU should adopt an uncompromising position, believing that this would help strengthen Mr. Kravchuk's authority. But most of his colleagues favored an immediate signing, thereby forcing Ukraine to sign the NPT before ratification of the partnership agreement by the European Parliament and the national assemblies of the Twelve.

The ministers also confirmed their commitment to EU financial aid for Ukraine, notably by funding the purchase by the Kiev authorities of seeds, fertilizers, and pesticides in order to relaunch a farming sector which has fallen into decay due to lack of funds.

The ministers also discussed at length the question of civil nuclear power. They were unanimous in calling for the shutdown of reactors at the Chernobyl nuclear power station, seriously damaged following an accident in April 1986.

(On Monday afternoon, the Kiev authorities requested financial aid in order to allow them to permanently shut down Chernobyl and ensure energy supplies for Ukraine.)

In return, the Twelve expressed a willingness to contribute to financial aid granted in the framework of the G7 (a grouping of the world's seven most industrialized nations) in order to complete the construction of two new nuclear power stations. Mr. Claes stated that these new reactors are already between 90 and 70 percent finished.

The Belgian minister did, however, express some reservations regarding the future of the civil nuclear program in Ukraine. "I do not believe it is wise to envisage the continued production of nuclear energy in Ukraine. There are other alternative solutions, such as the sale of electricity at very low prices while waiting for traditional power stations to be built," he told the assembled press.

Shanghai To Export Nuclear Power Plant To Pakistan

*HK1805080494 Hong Kong LIEN HO PAO in Chinese
18 May 94 p 22*

[“Special dispatch”: “Shanghai Becomes China’s Major Nuclear Power Equipment Manufacturing Base”]

[Text] Shanghai, 17 May (LIEN HO PAO)—The Shanghai power plant manufacturing industry, which provided the nuclear power equipment for the Qinshan Nuclear Power Plant and the Daya Bay Nuclear Power Plant, recently signed a technical agreement to build two 600,000-kilowatt nuclear power plants for the Phase-2 Qinshan project. It has also signed contracts to export a 300,000-kilowatt nuclear power plant to Pakistan. Shanghai is becoming China’s major nuclear power equipment manufacturing base.

In developing its nuclear power industry, Shanghai has invested nearly 200 million yuan and has built a number of fairly large nuclear power infrastructure projects. It has built factory buildings with a total floor space of 93,000 square meters, including seven 100-400-tonne-class factory buildings. Since 1988, Shanghai has allocated over 3 million yuan in financial credits for tackling scientific and technological projects in nuclear power development. By the end of last year, it had defined 88 projects, of which 62 had passed appraisal tests. Meanwhile, the relevant ministries, commissions, and offices of the State Council have assigned to Shanghai 11 problems for the development of a 600,000-kilowatt nuclear power plant—a key project to be tackled in the state’s Eighth Five-Year Plan (1991-1995). They have also allocated over 12 million yuan to improve Shanghai’s ability to manufacture nuclear power equipment.

Shanghai has earmarked another 200 million-odd yuan in the Eighth Five-Year Plan for gradually developing Shanghai’s production capability so that it can turn out between one and one and a half sets of nuclear power plant equipment annually during the Ninth Five-Year Plan (1996-2000).

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